

Border Fox is shot and held in gun battle

Army and police move in as car crashes at check-point

By John Cooney

Dessie O'Hare, Ireland's most wanted terrorist and the leader of a gang which kidnapped a Dublin dentist and captured yesterday in a gun battle with police and soldiers at Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny.

O'Hare, aged 29, from Co. Armagh, and known as the Border Fox, was shot in the arms, leg and chest when he drove a green BMW at a check-point manned by security forces.

Security sources said last night that O'Hare had first driven through a check-point supervised by unarmed police. His car came round a bend and was confronted with a second check-point reinforced by armed detectives and soldiers.

O'Hare began shooting at the security forces who returned fire. The BMW crashed into two police cars blocking the road.

After about 50 shots had been fired, police waited for 10 minutes before moving in on the car where they saw a man slumped dead in the passenger seat.

They heard O'Hare, who was in the driver's seat, screaming that he was in pain.

O'Hare, who had vowed to be killed rather than be taken alive in any confrontation with the police, pleaded with them to be treated gently. With help from police officers he limped to an ambulance.

He was taken to St Luke's Hospital in Kilkenny town where he underwent surgery. A hospital spokesman said:

Photograph 2
Background 2
Extradition threat 2

last night that O'Hare was "serious but not critical."

The dead passenger was named as Martin Bryan, who was born in Londonderry but had been living in Kilkenny. He was one of O'Hare's right-hand men and is suspected of having been involved in the murder of an Irish National Liberation Army informer three years ago.

A soldier, Denis Harrington, aged 24, was given first aid for a flesh wound in his lower left leg.

The incident took place at 1.35pm at Minsters Cross close to the village of Urlingford. It was a secondary road, near the main Cork to Dublin road.

Local sources suggested that O'Hare's capture was the result of a tip-off that he had been seen in the locality. Scores of police and soldiers had been in the area from early yesterday and had blocked off roads and had carried shoppers in special lorries to and from Urlingford.

But last night security forces insisted that the capture arose out of the nationwide hunt by a 7,000-strong joint police and army force for weapons believed to have been imported into the republic for use by the IRA.

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, last night offered his Government's congratulations and gratitude to the individual members of the police and the army.

He praised "the success of the massive security operation of the last week which has resulted in the arrest of Dessie

O'Hare." Mr Haughey also wished the wounded soldier a speedy recovery.

"The Irish people owe a great debt of gratitude to those who serve them so well and so bravely and who have brought a great sense of relief and reassurance to us all," Mr Haughey said.

O'Hare's capture was sweet revenge for the Irish police who had been humiliated time and again by the fugitive.

Although Mr John O'Grady, the dentist, was freed on Thursday, November 5, only hours before a £1.5 million was about to be paid to the kidnappers for his release, O'Hare succeeded in escaping arrest.

Police had also failed to capture the gang and free Mr O'Grady on Monday, October 26, when about 20 armed detectives located them with Mr O'Grady in a remote farm house in Middleton, Co. Cork. The gang escaped with Mr O'Grady in a shoot-out.

Mr Gerry Collins, the Minister for Justice, was delighted and relieved at yesterday's capture.

On Wednesday, police discovered a sophisticated underground hideout near Gort, Co. Galway. They believe that this was to have been used by the IRA for hoarding the 150 tons of arms, ammunition and explosives seized by the French authorities from the ship Eksund.

This week's huge hunt has also resulted in the arrest and detention of four Maze prison escapees. Two of them, Dermot Finnucane and Paul Anthony Kane, have appeared before the courts and are being held in custody.

Yesterday, Mr Kane's lawyers obtained a habeas corpus order for their client to appear before the High Court in Dublin tomorrow.

Early yesterday police arrested two other Maze escapees in Dublin. They are Seamus Pius Clarke, aged 31, from Donegal, who was sentenced to 18 years for attempted murder in 1979, and Anthony Edward Kelly, aged 26, of Londonderry, who was sentenced to indefinite life for the killing of a reserve policeman in the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Ban on GCHQ secrets report

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

The Attorney General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, yesterday obtained a High Court injunction to prevent a journalist disclosing highly classified information about the Government's GCHQ communications centre outside Cheltenham.

It emerged that in the course of raids on the London home of Mr Duncan Campbell at the height of last January's Zircon spy satellite affair the police had discovered a document - unrelated to Zircon - that detailed information passed to him by a former middle-ranking officer of GCHQ, now retired.

That officer is Mr Alex Lawrie, a Labour councillor on Gloucestershire County Council, whose Cheltenham home was raided by police in May this year. He refused to make any comment last night.

The Foreign Office, which is responsible for GCHQ, said last night that it had been very concerned about the discovery of the document, but that Mr Lawrie would not be prosecuted because of the danger of classified information surfacing in open court.

Instead, Mr Lawrie has been asked through his solicitor for an undertaking that he would make no further disclosures.

News of this latest twist in the Government's tortuous attempts to preserve official secrecy came as Sir Patrick announced, to widespread derision, that no prosecutions were to be pursued against anyone involved in the revelations about the top-secret Zircon spy satellite affair.

Although the Government had managed to prevent the BBC from screening the offending programme in the Secret Society series, both Mr Campbell and the *New Statesman* magazine appeared to have blatantly breached the Official Secrets Act by publishing the account.

And despite Special Branch raids on Mr Campbell's home, on the offices of the *New Statesman*, and on the BBC's offices in Glasgow, all heavily criticised in the Commons at the time, it is understood that the source of Mr Campbell's information has not been discovered. There is no evidence that Mr Lawrie was also the source of the Zircon information.

"Having considered with the Director of Public Prosecutions all the relevant factors, including in particular

Continued on page 24, col 5

Firemen honour King's Cross victim



Members of Station Officer Colin Townsley's family following their father's coffin as it was taken to St Paul's Church, Covent Garden, yesterday. (Photograph: John Rogers)

Farewell to a 'true hero'

By Alan Hamilton

No military rituals attend the deaths of firemen, no gun carriage bears them to their final rest. But yesterday the fire service put out its finest panoply of honour for the funeral of Station Officer Colin Townsley, aged 45, who died attempting to save passengers in the King's Cross Underground fire.

Rarely, it was said over his flag-draped coffin, would one

The death toll in the King's Cross fire rose to 31 yesterday when a middle-aged man, who had been gravely burned, died in University College Hospital, London.

The hospital would not name him, at his family's request. The man had been in the intensive care unit since the fire and had undergone surgery by consultant plastic surgeon Mr Michael Brough.

He is understood to have been from Central London, married with children.

treman boast of his own or another's heroism to an outsider. Yesterday was an exception: some 3,000 firemen, representing every brigade in Britain, set aside their pride to give one of their number the fireman's equivalent of a state funeral.

His bier was a turntable ladder, dressed overall in dozens of wreaths of white, red and yellow, dominated by the word "Guv" picked out in white chrysanthemums, a last tribute from the men of Red Watch at Soho fire station whom he commanded, and who were a bare two hours into their shift when summoned to that fateful incident in which 30 others lost their lives in the fire, smoke and confusion of King's Cross.

His coffin lay on the vehicle's platform beneath the ladder, draped with the Union flag, his white helmet and fire service good conduct medal on a black cushion among the wreaths on top, and attended by six pallbearers from Red Watch, bareheaded and at stiff attention.

Before the ladder in convoy drove two black hearses full of wreaths sent from all over the world, and two flower-decked fire engines, one of them the vehicle that took Colin Townsley from Soho station to his last call, his seat in the cab left poignantly empty.

Preceded by a police motorcycle escort, the bright cortege left Soho fire station and made steady progress through the London traffic to King's Cross

Security sweep follows massacre of 16 whites

From Jan Raath, Harare, and A Correspondent, Esogodini

The Government of Zimbabwe yesterday sent a counter-insurgency task force into farming areas south of the city of Bulawayo to help in the hunt for guerrillas responsible for the massacre on Thursday of 16 white members of a Christian community.

It was the worst attack on whites in the country since the war of independence.

Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Home Affairs, yesterday told a press conference in Harare that the massacre was the result of a dispute between the group of Pentecostals, who included two Americans, and squatters who had settled in the area.

The only eye-witness reports came from two traumatised children, Laura Russell, aged 13, Matthew Marais, aged 6 and a black houseworker from the Olive Tree and New Adams Farms in the Esogodini area, 18 miles south of the city, where the group farmed together as the Reconciliation Community.

Although journalists were being kept back from the scene of the killings at Olive Tree farm, from the top of a nearby kopje (hill) the stone walls of the homestead could be seen covered with ash. Two other

Land dispute link 6
Welsh sorrow 6

buildings, including a community centre, were similarly destroyed.

Laura Russell appeared to owe her survival to the guerrillas' intention to use her to carry a note, in broken English, to the authorities, describing themselves as "Marxist-Leninist fighters" and castigating Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, and Mrs Thatcher, for acting contrary to "the people's revolution".

Mr Nkala, quoting the worker who escaped, says that despite being armed with rifles, the guerrillas used "only axes" and backed the mission-aries to death, first at Olive Tree, and then at New Adams.

The tactic is well known to Zimbabwean counter-insurgency veterans. Using axes horrifies the families of the victims, avoids the possibility of the authorities being alerted by the noise of gunfire, and saves bullets.

Mr Nkala said that Mr David Marais, one of the victims, a year ago had asked squatters to reduce their cattle on his farm, but they refused. Last week, Mr Mark Dhubu, the Provincial Governor, told the squatters that they would have to move to a resettlement area, in line with new government policy against squatters.

The squatters refused again, Continued on page 24, col 5

INSIDE

Books for Christmas

Significant, surprising, funny, cruel, brilliant, urbane, uplifting, entertaining, revelatory, laudatory, historical, hysterical, meaningful, frivolous... a panel of critics chooses books of the year, plus the best on offer in categories from children to travel

pages 13-15

IN PART 2

Tokyo victory

Cable and Wireless will win its battle to enter the Japanese market on Monday when it is awarded a telecommunications licence Page 25

Go for bonds

Bonds seem to be the safest place for your money after the stock market collapse says Family Money... Pages 36-36

Portfolio

There is £20,000 to be won in The Times Portfolio Gold competition today, the £3,000 weekly prize and a daily prize of £12,000 because there were no winners on the previous two days.

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British sub 'spied on IRA arms boat'

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

A British nuclear submarine is reported to have been shadowing the coaster Eksund up to the moment that French customs boarded her on October 30 and discovered a huge cache of arms allegedly destined for the Provisional IRA.

In a special investigation published yesterday, the well-informed daily *Liberation* claimed that the vessel and her five Irish crew members had been under constant surveillance since loading some 150 tonnes of assorted weaponry supplied by Libya.

The submarine never surfaced during the operation, the report added, relying on its "active-passive" sonar system to keep tabs on the elderly, Panamanian-registered ship. Though the newspaper quotes only "Irish naval service" sources for its story, it says a British hunter-killer submarine was used to shadow

another vessel running arms to the IRA three years ago.

In the case of the Marita Ann, photographs of activities on the ship's bridge were taken through the periscope before the Royal Navy seized her and a seven-tonne cargo of arms off the coast of Ireland.

Britain's original objective in the Eksund operation, it is claimed, was to follow the weapons as far as possible along the IRA supply route, though she could have been detained at any moment after entering UK territorial waters.

The article quotes official sources as confirming that two tonnes of the powerful explosive Semtex, of Czechoslovakian origin, were discovered on the Eksund. The Provisional IRA is known to have used Semtex to make large bombs.

The five Irish crewmen face charges of transporting weapons for the purpose of terrorism.



Mr Duncan Campbell: His files were raided by police.

Rail fares to rise by average 6.5pc

By David Sapsted

Railway users' and transport groups yesterday attacked British Rail's plans to increase fares by an average of 6.5 per cent in January.

They said that commuters in the South-east and business travellers would again be hardest hit by the rises.

A spokesman for British Rail said the increases, running two per cent ahead of inflation, were necessary to finance improvements in services.

The Central Transport Consultative Committee blamed reductions in state subsidy.

Most InterCity season tickets will be going up by between 8.5 and 11 per cent while some commuters in the south-east

Fares protest 3

face a rise of more than 9 per cent.

The price of InterCity Saver tickets has been frozen.

BR pointed out that since last January, when fare increases averaged five per cent, several electrification schemes had been completed and new and refurbished trains introduced.

MP tells cricketers to return

The controversial dismissal of Chris Broad, the England batsman has brought a protest from the Conservative MP Mr Terence Dicks, the member for Hayes and Harlington. Mr Dicks has called for England to come home immediately because of "cheating" by Pakistan. "What they have been doing is unsporting and a disgrace," Mr Dicks said.

Broad has been reprimanded by the England tour manager, Peter Lush, for his reluctance to accept that he had been caught after appearing to make no contact with a delivery. Report, page 46

How Scargill keeps audiences under his thumb



By John Clare
Education Correspondent

A lecturer in psychology at York University has found out how Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, controls his audience to create the impression that he is overwhelmingly popular.

Dr Peter Bull has carried out a detailed psychological analysis of Mr Scargill's style.

Dr Bull said yesterday that after studying a videotape of Mr Scargill making a speech at a Labour Party rally in Bradford, he had identified three rhetorical devices which the miners' leader uses to arouse and control applause.

The first, which Dr Bull says is highly effective in evoking sustained clapping, is the use of contrast accompanied by ambidextrous gesturing. Thus: "There is something criminally insane about a government which puts war (right hand jab) before peace (left hand jab)."

Dr Bull says Mr Scargill used the device 10 times during his Bradford speech. On eight occasions it was followed by sustained applause.

The second device is the use of three-part lists in which each item is marked out by carefully synchronised gestures. Dr Bull says the device

is also a favourite of Mrs Thatcher's, as in: "Soviet Marxism is ideologically, politically and morally bankrupt."

Mr Scargill used nine three-part lists in his Bradford speech: six were greeted with sustained applause.

Dr Bull calls the the third of Mr Scargill's rhetorical devices the headline-punchline. "In this device, the speaker proposes to make a declaration, pledge or announcement and then makes it: thus, it is totally explicit that there is an appropriate place for the audience to applaud."

Mr Scargill employed this Continued on page 24, col 1



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NEWS SUMMARY

Unions balloted in TV dispute

Unions at Tyne Tees television, where 39 electricians have been dismissed over a flexible rostering dispute, are being balloted on whether to co-operate with management in putting out improved services next week.

Since the dispute began, the Newcastle upon Tyne-based company has been broadcasting some of its programmes from inadequately lit studios. Management has decided, from Monday, to do the work normally undertaken by electricians.

The company has refused to reinstate the dismissed electricians until the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) agrees to new working practices.

The dispute at TV-am in London, also over working practices, remained deadlocked. ACTT members have been locked out.

'Rape of one in 12' Rise in L drivers

One in 12 women has been raped and one in seven sexually assaulted, although most victims did not report the attacks to police, a regional report published yesterday claims.

The report, called *Breaking the Silence*, comes from a survey of nearly 2,000 women in Manchester, by the city council's police monitoring unit.

The figures contrast with the results of the national British Crime Survey in 1984, which says in 1983 the rate of sexual offences was 35 per 10,000 women aged 16 plus, or one in 285.

MPs back BA bid

Twenty-five MPs lined up behind British Airways last night in its take-over bid for British Caledonian. They signed an early-day motion arguing that it would be regrettable if the airline were taken over by a foreign company "noted for its commitment to a protectionist high fare policy" (Harvey Elliott writes).

The MPs' action came as a disappointment to British Caledonian which believes that the rival Scandinavian offer should at least be given a fair hearing. Many employees and shareholders privately believe that the SAS deal, once it is clarified, could provide a more attractive alternative to the British Airways take-over offer, in that it would enable B-Cal to retain its domestic routes.

Scientific appraisal Two years for lawyer

Britain's science community is too big and ought to "stop belly-aching", Sir Hermann Bondi, Master of Churchill College, Cambridge, said yesterday.

Scientific research was costing the population more than £15 per head per year, yet the taxpayer was being told that this led only to "disaster, a total loss of morale, an inability to do much work and a loss to the country of many of the most talented scientists".

Sir Hermann said that the task was to improve the way funds were used.

Pit campaign starts

The battle for the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers begins in earnest next week when Mr John Walsh, the union's North Yorkshire agent, will outline the disagreements which have led him to challenge Mr Arthur Scargill for the post of president (Tim Jones writes).

The former Rugby League international, who begins his campaign at Castleford, North Yorkshire, has until January 22 to convince the union's 100,000 members that he should be their new leader. Mr Walsh believes Mr Scargill's style is based far too much on confrontation rather than consultation. Mr Scargill plans to begin his campaign at the only remaining pit in North Wales whose miners criticized him during the strike.

Gorbachov visit 'sign of respect for Thatcher'

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

The first visit to Britain by a Russian leader in 31 years will be confined to RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire, government sources said yesterday.

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov will land there on Monday week on his way to the Washington summit to sign the treaty to eliminate intermediate nuclear weapons (INF) from Europe.

Mr Gorbachov and Mr

Eduard Shevardnadze, his Foreign Minister, will have talks with the Prime Minister and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, at the RAF base.

There had been speculation that the Russian leader would go to Chequers, the Prime Minister's country residence in Buckinghamshire, but that has been ruled out through lack of time.

The two leaders will discuss possibilities for further disarmament in the wake of the

INF treaty, and, if time permits, the progress of Mr Gorbachov's reforms in the Soviet Union, East-West relations and the situation in the Gulf.

Appropriately, RAF Brize Norton is near to RAF Greenham Common, home of the cruise missiles that the INF deal will eliminate.

A group of Soviet officials arrived there yesterday to make advance preparations for the visit. Their duties include checking that British

arrangements for his protection.

Meanwhile, in Moscow, a Soviet spokesman yesterday confirmed that Mr Gorbachov's decision to stop in Britain was a sign of his respect for Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Gennadi Gerasimov, chief spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said Mr Gorbachov valued the Prime Minister's opinions and wanted to exchange views.

"Mrs Thatcher is a leader of strong views. Mr Gorbachov

is a leader of strong views. It will strengthen the position of both sides", Mr Gerasimov told BBC Radio.

"This shows that the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, important as they are, are not the end of the story. We value our relations with other countries."

● The Labour Party moved a step closer to retaining the Trident nuclear deterrent pending the outcome of arms talks last night by arguing that

unilateralism was no longer necessary now the superpowers had embraced nuclear disarmament (Nicholas Wood writes).

The remarks by Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour spokesman on foreign affairs, made with the full backing of the party leadership, were immediately seen as giving renewed impetus to the process, begun at the Brighton conference in October, of putting the Opposition back on a multilateral footing.

GMC takes tough line on doctors with Aids

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Doctors risk being struck off the medical register if they contract the Aids virus but ignore advice to stop practising, the General Medical Council said yesterday.

The council announced new guidelines for all doctors after a meeting of its standards committee.

Sir John Walton, the council's president, said that it was unethical for doctors who knew or suspected that they had Aids or were HIV positive to continue working without advice.

Sir John, in a statement issued after the meeting, said that doctors would be putting their patients at risk if they

The World Health Organization said yesterday that 68,217 cases of Aids have been reported worldwide, up 2,151 on the previous week.

It said that the additional cases were reported by 26 countries, many of them in Europe because the regional reporting centre there had turned in its periodic report.

The United States reported 45,436 cases; Britain 1,123; France 2,523; and West Germany 1,400.

continued to work after being told to stop.

Other doctors were told that they should inform health authorities if they suspected a colleague had the virus but was not following advice.

"There are well tried arrangements for dealing with such cases. They are designed to protect patients as well as to assist the sick doctor", Sir John said.

The council's meeting was held in the wake of the death of a doctor who worked in the kidney unit at the London Hospital, Whitechapel. He had contracted Aids.

Sir John said: "There is no known case anywhere in the world of HIV having been transmitted by an infected doctor to a patient in the course of medical treatment."

"Nevertheless, it is imperative, both in the public interest and on ethical grounds, that any doctors who

consider they may have been infected with HIV should seek appropriate diagnostic testing and counselling and, if found to be infected, should have regular medical supervision.

"They should also seek specialist advice on the extent to which they should limit their professional practice in order to protect their patients."

"It is unethical for doctors who know or believe themselves to be infected with HIV to put patients at risk by failing to seek appropriate counselling, or to act upon it when given."

Sir John added: "If the circumstances so warrant, the council is empowered to take action to limit the practice of such doctors."

The British Medical Association yesterday backed the council's decision.

The Department of Health and Social Security said that it welcomed the speed with which the General Medical Council had acted.

A judge's remarks about the fear of Aids just before he jailed a rapist for 12 years were unjustified, the Court of Appeal ruled in London yesterday.

Lord Justice Gidwell said yesterday that the time might come when guidelines on sentencing in rape cases would have to be revised to reflect the transmission of the disease.

However, in the case before the Common Serjeant, Judge Thomas Pigot, QC, at the Central Criminal Court, there was no evidence that the teenage victim of a knife-point rape had contracted Aids.

Lord Justice Gidwell, sitting with Mr Justice Kenneth Jones and Mr Justice Rous, reduced the 12-year sentence on Leslie Malcolm to 10 years.

The appeal judge said that the Common Serjeant had commented on the "pernicious" nature of the disease and he might well have increased his sentence as a result.

Malcolm, aged 22, of Barrington Road, Stockwell, south-west London, admitted rape when he appeared at the Central Criminal Court on February 16 this year.

Patients to get free private treatment

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Britain's largest private health insurance company, Bupa, has set up a £500,000 scheme with the Government to reduce National Health Service waiting lists by sending patients to private hospitals.

The pilot scheme is intended to help some of the 700,000 people waiting for treatment and to promote private health care.

The exercise will also study the cost effectiveness of using the 200 private hospitals in this country.

Hospitals involved in the project, which is being set up in Trent and West Midlands regional health authorities, can use the extra money to pay only for operations in the private sector and, in a few cases, in NHS pay beds.

The new funding is expected to allow 1,000 patients to have their operations in the next four months.

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that the two regions, which will each be given £240,000, had been chosen because they have long waiting lists and because they have already set up several successful schemes.

Trent has 59,800 people awaiting treatment. Sir Michael Carlisle, the regional chairman, yesterday welcomed the scheme. "We want to ensure that the maximum number of patients get treated and this is one way of achieving that. This is money that we would not have got otherwise and anything to help alleviate pain is a good thing."

Nearly 80,000 people are waiting for treatment in West Midlands. The authority said that officers were discussing with Bupa where the money could be spent most effectively.

Bupa said yesterday that none of its own hospitals was sited in either region. "We are being paid a small consultancy fee to advise the two regions how to strike a tough bargain with the private hospitals", it said.

"The NHS has no idea about its own costs let alone those in the private sector."

The company, which is being paid "a few thousand pounds" for the consultancy service says that neither Bupa nor the private hospitals would make money out of the deal. White Paper in action, page 4

Psycopath's one-man war

By David Sapsted



Dessie O'Hare: interested "only in the bullet and the bomb".

Haughey's threat on extradition Bill

By John Cooney

Opposition leaders in the Irish Parliament yesterday objected to proposed safeguards in an extradition Bill despite a threat from Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, that he will call a general election if the measure is not approved next week.

The Bill would require the Irish attorney general to satisfy himself that the intention is to prosecute a fugitive and that there is sufficient evidence supplied by the British legal authorities for a prosecution to take place.

Presenting the Bill, Mr Haughey said that it struck the right balance. "It gives effective protection without being excessively restrictive".

Mr Desmond O'Malley, a former justice minister, said that Mr Haughey was attempt-

ing politically to browbeat Parliament into supporting "this unjustified and arbitrary departure from the rule of law".

● Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, has been urged by Irish socialists to end his party's contacts with Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA.

The appeal is made in a letter from Mr Dick Spring, the Irish Labour leader and former deputy prime minister. Mr Tomas McGiolla, the leader of the Workers Party, and Mr Jim Kenney, an independent deputy.

● A permanent memorial, in the form of a garden of remembrance, seems certain to be erected for the victims of the Poppy Day bombing in Enniskillen.

When his group was expelled from the INLA, he issued a statement criticizing the headquarters faction for failing "to perpetrate the war against the enemies of the Irish people, North and South".

He told journalists during one interview that he was not interested in politics, "only the bullet and the bomb".

Indeed, O'Hare, an Ulsterman brought up on a farm in Co Armagh, appeared to be motivated in his association with both the IRA and INLA only by a love of action.

He was twice injured in car crashes, the second time, in 1979, leading to his imprisonment for possession of an Armalite rifle. He got out last year and, having quit the IRA, precipitated the INLA feud by leading a gang alleged to have committed a string of unauthorized robberies.

When his group was expelled from the INLA, he issued a statement criticizing the headquarters faction for failing "to perpetrate the war against the enemies of the Irish people, North and South".

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Civil Service YTS strike may spread

By Roland Rodd and Kerry Gill

Striking Civil Servants yesterday closed Department of Employment offices throughout the country as union leaders argued over escalating the dispute.

The DHSS said eight local offices were closed to the public, while Civil Servants working at other offices refused to cross picket lines.

Mr John Ellis, general secretary of the CPSA, warned the hard left in his union it would be in breach of the law if it tried to force Civil Servants in the DHSS to join yesterday's strike without a ballot.

However, Mr Macreadie said he regarded the vote in favour of the strike as a preliminary move towards further industrial action.

He said he expected all Civil Servants to respect the picket lines and join the strike.

Mr John Macreadie, deputy general secretary of the CPSA, said in Glasgow yesterday the Government would have to find 65,000 places for YTS

Gene test rapist cuts his throat

By Ruth Gledhill

A rapist who claimed innocence slashed his throat with a razor blade after he was convicted on the basis of a genetic "fingerprint".

Nigel Davies, aged 25, a labourer, of Rhydyddyn Drive, Rhyll, North Wales, cut himself in the dock after being found guilty at Mold Crown Court yesterday of raping a woman aged 60 in Rhyll. He was taken bleeding to the cells where a doctor found his wounds to be superficial.

Mr Justice Jupp called the rapist a danger to the public, ordered him to be detained in a secure hospital and adjourned sentence pending psychiatric reports.

Davies is the first man in Britain to have denied rape but to have been found guilty after evidence based on the genetic fingerprinting.

Ladbroke's sues Tote for libel

By Richard Evans

The Horserace Totalisator Board, whose members include a member of the Royal Family, was yesterday served with a writ claiming damages for libel by Ladbroke's, the biggest of the high street betting chains.

Prince Michael of Kent is on the board, whose other members include Lord Chapple, the Mr David Mountagu, Mrs Priscilla Hastings, Mr John Sanderson and Mr Peter S. Winfield.

The writ concerns a letter written on October 13 by Lord Wyatt, chairman of the Tote and one of the best known figures in British racing, to an official of the Pari Mutuel Urbain, the French equivalent of the Tote.

Ladbroke's, which obtained a copy of the letter earlier this week, has also issued a writ against Lord Wyatt.

NOTICE OF IMPORTANT PUBLIC AUCTION

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TERMS OF PAYMENT: CASH, CHEQUE AND ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

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Rail fare rises 'will force commuters to switch to roads'

By David Sapsted

Commuters and business travellers were warned yesterday that they will be hit hardest by British Rail's plans to increase fares next year by an average of 6.5 per cent, well ahead of the rate of inflation.

Transport and rail users' groups claimed that the reduction in state subsidy to British Rail would bring rises of up to 13 per cent, with InterCity and Network SouthEast travellers worst affected, as part of a deliberate policy of trying to force commuters off the most over-crowded routes.

"We are very concerned that commuters and people travelling on business are going to be clobbered", said Major-General Lennox Napier, chairman of the rail users' watchdog group, the Central Transport Consultative Committee (CTCC).

The public transport pressure group, Transport 2000, said: "Neither Network SouthEast nor London Transport can cope with the recent increases in passengers. Each is now trying to price off users and the result can only be to force people on to the roads."

"It might make good political headlines to reduce the subsidy to railways, but it

makes absolutely no sense in transport policy terms."

The increases announced by BR yesterday average less than the 9.5 per cent rise proposed by London Regional Transport, but are still 2 per cent above inflation. They include 13.46 per cent increase on the London-Liverpool ordinary single fare. InterCity Saver fares are unchanged but most seven-day seasons on InterCity will rise by 8 to 11 per cent.

Both the CTCC and Transport 2000 said yesterday that British Rail had little option but to increase fares after progressive reductions in government subsidy.

That was reduced by 25 per cent between 1983-86, and is for a similar cut in the next three years. InterCity services will lose all their subsidy by next April when, the CTCC says, they will still be millions of pounds in the red and have little hope of meeting the Government's aim of breaking even.

Major-General Napier also accused British Rail of deliberately increasing fares on the new and overcrowded Sprinter units to dampen demand. Provincial services,

booming because of unreliability caused by bus deregulation, would also lose out because of the big fare rises, Transport 2000 says.

Mr Robert Hughes, Labour's chief transport spokesman, condemned the fare rises, saying they were above the rate of inflation for the fifth year running.

"By forcing British Rail to use fares, instead of grants, to finance investment the Government is distorting the transport market, pushing still more commuters on to our roads and forcing up spending on road repairs. This is crazy economics, like cutting off your hand to lose weight."

Justifying the rises, British Rail said that part of the extra revenue raised from its real money-spinner, Network SouthEast, would be spent next year on lengthening suburban stations serving Charing Cross and Cannon Street to enable them to take 12-carriage, instead of 10-carriage, trains.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, yesterday defended the rise in fares and emphasized that trains were now more popular than ever.

Art expert who fits a royal bill



The power of advertising has helped to find a successor to Sir Oliver Millar who retires next July after 16 years as Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures (Lynda Mardia writes).

Mr Christopher Lloyd, aged 42, assistant keeper of Western Art at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, where he was pictured yesterday, responded to an unprecedented "sit vac" in the *Burlington Magazine*.

Mr Lloyd, who has four children aged seven to 17, has spent 20 years at the Ash-

molean, becoming interested in art as a modern history undergraduate at Christ Church, Oxford. Two particular areas of interest are Italian Renaissance art and French Impressionism.

As Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, he will be responsible for the maintenance of the largest private art collection in the world, about 5,000 pictures ranging from priceless masterpieces to works of less distinguished quality.

(Photograph: David Hartley)

Two held after farmhouse shootings

Police yesterday held a man and a woman for questioning in connection with a double shooting at a former children's home in Suffolk.

On Thursday night, armed police had stormed an eight-bedroom farmhouse called Four Elms at Stonham Parva, near Stowmarket, after a seven-hour siege.

They found the body of Mrs Thea Trevelyan, aged 38, a teacher, lying in a pool of blood in the kitchen.

Earlier her lover, Mr Victor Copperman, aged 45, had been found beside the main Norwich-Ipswich road with a wound in his stomach.

He was still seriously ill yesterday after a four-hour emergency operation at Heath Road Hospital, Ipswich.

Shortly after storming the farmhouse armed officers surrounded a house 40 miles away at St Oystin, near Clacton, Essex.

Police later left the house with a man and his woman friend.

Suffolk's assistant chief constable, Mr John Cullum, disclosed that four weeks ago two people were arrested in connection with alleged offences at Four Elms.

He refused to say what the alleged offences were but confirmed that the investigation was now running side by side with the shooting inquiries.

Christmas bears oust toy monsters

By India Knight

With 23 shopping days to go before Christmas, London's main toy stockists report a surprising return to traditional gifts, cuddly bears, board games and model aircraft.

Gone are the talking toys, plastic monsters and video games favoured in recent years.

The bestseller at Harrods toy department is the store's

Christmas bear, an 18in figure complete with bobble hat and wintry scarf at £14.95. Close second is a set of magic cards, retailing at £1.99. Third is a set of paper airplanes at £1.50. The planes loop the loop when thrown in the air.

At Hamleys, the best sellers are remote-controlled cars which range in price from £29.99 to £59.99. A "talking computer" aimed at five to

nine-year-olds, which promises "19 IQ-building activities", is also selling well at £45.99.

Cassette recorders, skateboards and board games are in demand.

At Woolworth's, where sales of plastic animal hybrid figures are holding up, "Soft Keyzers", hairy toys with a hole in their middle for storing treasures, are selling well.

TRAIN FARE CHANGES

Network SE standard class between London and:

	Cheap day return			7-day season (BR)			Annual season (BR)		
	£ Now	£ New	% Rise	£ Now	£ New	% Rise	£ Now	£ New	% Rise
Bletchley	6.40	6.70	4.69	31.30	33.40	6.71	1252	1336	6.71
Brighton	7.40	7.80	5.41	32.60	34.80	6.75	1304	1392	6.75
Colchester	7.50	8.00	6.67	33.30	35.50	6.61	1332	1420	6.61
East Croydon	2.50	2.80	4.55	13.60	14.80	8.82	544	592	8.82
Reading	5.30	5.50	3.77	30.30	33.30	9.90	1212	1332	9.90
Slough	2.80	3.00	7.14	20.60	22.20	7.77	824	888	7.77
Southend	5.00	5.30	6.00	28.50	30.60	7.37	1140	1224	7.37
Tonbridge	4.20	4.50	7.14	27.10	28.90	6.64	1084	1156	6.64

Network SE + LT standard class between Central London and:

	7-day + all-zone Capitalcard			Annual + all-zone Capitalcard		
	£ Now	£ New	% Rise	£ Now	£ New	% Rise
Bletchley	35.30	37.90	7.37	1412	1516	7.37
Brighton	36.90	39.30	6.50	1476	1572	6.50
Colchester	36.90	40.00	8.40	1476	1600	8.40
East Croydon	16.30	16.80	3.07	652	672	3.07
Reading	34.50	37.50	8.70	1380	1500	8.70
Slough	24.70	26.70	8.10	988	1068	8.10
Southend	32.70	35.10	7.34	1308	1404	7.34
Tonbridge	31.10	33.40	7.40	1244	1336	7.40

InterCity standard class from London to:

	Single			7-day season			Annual season		
	£ Now	£ New	% Rise	£ Now	£ New	% Rise	£ Now	£ New	% Rise
Birmingham	16.00	17.50	9.38	68.50	75.00	9.49	2400	2620	9.17
Bournemouth	13.50	14.40	6.67	47.30	50.50	6.77	1992	2020	1.41
Bristol	16.20	17.50	8.02	68.50	72.50	9.02	2660	2900	9.02
Cardiff	19.40	21.00	8.25	74.50	81.00	8.72	2980	3240	8.72
Coventry	12.80	14.00	9.38	60.50	66.50	9.92	2180	2390	9.17
Edinburgh	44.50	48.00	7.89	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glasgow	41.50	43.00	3.61	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leeds	26.50	28.50	7.55	82.50	89.50	8.48	3300	3580	8.48
Liverpool	26.00	28.50	9.62	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manchester	26.00	28.50	9.62	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newcastle	37.50	39.50	5.33	114.00	125.00	9.65	4560	5000	9.65
Norwich	15.00	16.50	10.00	50.00	54.50	9.00	2000	2180	9.00
Nottingham	17.30	19.00	9.83	68.50	75.00	9.49	2460	2680	9.35
Peterborough	11.10	12.00	8.11	45.10	49.60	9.98	1804	1984	9.98
Sheffield	21.50	23.00	6.98	80.00	85.50	6.88	3600	3840	6.67
Swindon	10.60	11.50	8.49	49.20	53.50	8.74	1988	2140	7.74
York	26.50	28.50	7.55	84.00	92.00	9.52	3360	3680	9.52
Gatwick	4.60	5.00	8.70	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gatwick (cheapday)	5.00	5.30	6.00	—	—	—	—	—	—

*5-zone Capitalcard †Savers on InterCity remain unchanged

No slowing Mrs Thatcher

By Nicholas Wood

Political Correspondent

After a week in which the long arm of human frailty had briefly brushed her shoulder, Mrs Margaret Thatcher heads for a weekend at Chequers today with her colleagues reflecting on the futility of even suggesting she might slow down.

At the age of 62 and within a few weeks of becoming the longest serving Prime Minister this century, she still subjects herself to a gruelling 14-hour daily schedule.

But on Tuesday night at a reception at which the Queen was host the superwoman mask slipped a fraction. She complained of feeling dizzy, and left 20 minutes early. The following day she was back to the rudest of good health.

It was, of course, just a slight stumble. Yet there are deeper factors at work.

Yesterday, at Westminster there was speculation about what had so temporarily laid her low. Some looked to her punishing daily schedules, others, closer to her, pointed to the events of the previous few days.

On Thursday, she visited

A routine 16½-hour day

Prime Minister's day Tuesday, November 24, 1987.

6.00am: Wakes to BBC Radio 4. Listens to news and Today.

7.30am: Prepares cooked breakfast for Mr Denis Thatcher, limits herself to orange juice, black coffee and vitamin C tablet. Leads through newspapers.

8.30am: Studies digest of press cuttings.

9am: Downstairs to her Downing Street office for meetings with staff, advisers and Cabinet colleagues. Mr John Moore taken ill there at about 10.30am.

1pm: Light lunch at desk while studying papers for Commons questions.

2.40pm: Arrives at Commons and goes to her study.

3pm: Arrives on government front bench.

3.15pm: Plunged into 15 minutes of heated questions concentrating on the Birmingham hole-in-the-heart baby and nurses' pay.

3.30pm: Holds a series of meetings with backbench Conservative MPs.

6pm: Arrives at Buckingham Palace for a 90-minute audience with the Queen—slightly shorter than usual.

8.15pm: Back at Downing Street for supper, then changes for the reception.

9.30pm: Arrives at Palace.

10.30pm: Feels unwell. Returns to her Downing Street flat 20 minutes earlier than planned. Has, for her, a very early night.

the scene of the appalling King's Cross fire and on Sunday morning she was in Enniskillen, standing at the town's cenotaph for half an hour in a freezing wind and rain to mourn the dead of two world wars and the 11 slain by the IRA a fortnight earlier. Later that day she was holding talks with M Jacques Chirac,

the French prime minister, on the forthcoming EEC Summit.

For Mrs Thatcher, last Tuesday (see panel) was a day much like many others, beginning at 6 am with the BBC Radio 4 and the Today programme and expected to end past midnight with a Scotch and the last of the Red Boxes of ministerial papers.

Rossetti sets world record

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

Christie's achieved a world record price for a Victorian painting when they sold Dante Gabriel Rossetti's "Proserpine" for £1.43 million (including buyer's premium) in London yesterday, while Sotheby's counteracted with a record for a manuscript by the composer Liszt.

The Rossetti painting is significant, first as the original version of the famous painting at the Tate Gallery and second, for having belonged to the artist's sister, who hung it in the bedroom of his Manchester house.

It was bought by the dealer Christopher Gibbs for a client, breaking the previous record for a Victorian painting—US\$1.265 million (£953,000) for a work by F S Lewis. However, two of Christie's trio of star turns did not fare so well.

Lord Leighton's "Sybil", described as magnificent by the auction house and "lost in the men's room in a house in Connecticut" until its recent discovery. It sold below its estimate of £300,000 to £500,000, at £286,000, while "The Prince Entering the

the strangest was Frank Cadogan Cowper's picture of the Devil disguised as a troubadour entertaining nuns with his song of love. It was bought for £75,000 by a collector buying in partnership with the dealer Peter Nahum.

In total, the sale raised £3.1 million, with 29 per cent bought in.

At Sotheby's, a recently discovered autograph manuscript of an unknown piano work by Franz Liszt sold for £71,500 (estimate £40,000 to £60,000) to an anonymous private buyer.

At the manuscript sale, there were good prices for material related to early music, currently enjoying a vogue in musical circles. An autograph manuscript of Purcell's transcription of "Miserere mei, Domine" fetched £17,600.

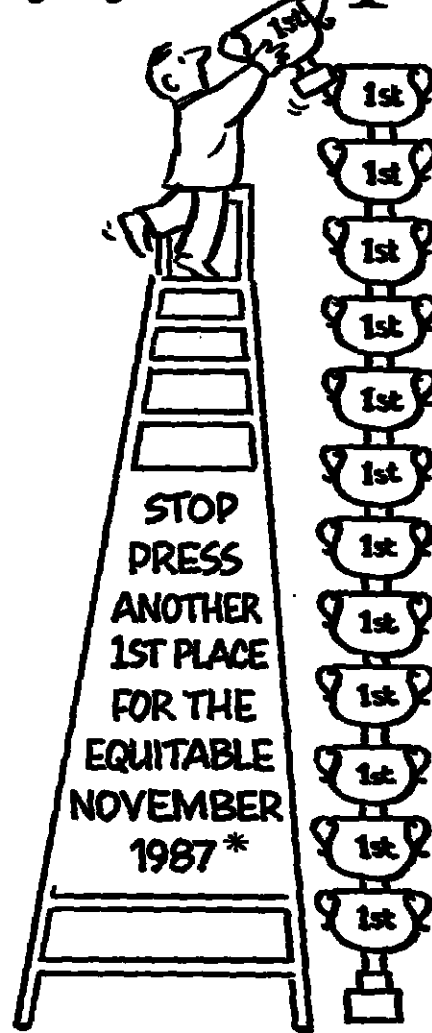
Among the predictable Victorian narrative subjects,

SALE ROOM

Brian Wood" by Edward Burne-Jones failed to sell.

During the week, the Leighton had been the subject of scorn by dealers who, despite Christie's protestations, insisted the painting had been cleaned recently, at the cost of its subtle plain glazes.

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Spycatcher press ban is 'intolerable' says editor

The court ban on press reporting of Mr Peter Wright's book *Spycatcher* was an "intolerable restraint" on the public's right to know, Mr Donald Treford, editor of *The Observer*, told the High Court yesterday.

"It cannot be that reporting on *Spycatcher* in *The Observer* could cause any further damage; the cat is well and truly out of the bag," he said.

Mr Treford was giving evidence before Mr Justice Scott in reply to the Government's action for a permanent ban on reporting of material from the memoirs of Mr Wright, a former MI5 officer. The book has already sold a million copies worldwide.

In a statement read from the witness box, Mr Treford accused the Government of trying to "bully" newspapers. He said a temporary injunction banning publication obtained by the Government in June 1986 was intolerable since the rest of the world could now read *Spycatcher*.

"It is an important part of the function of the Press in a free society to check on abuses of power," he said.

"I would not exclude the security services from such debate and scrutiny if sufficiently serious abuses came to light, as is the case following publication of Mr Wright's allegations, especially where (as in this case) the suspicion must arise that action is being taken against the press to hush the matter up and save the Government embarrassment."

Mr Treford said that any damage to national security which the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robert Armstrong, had feared before publication of *Spycatcher* must now have occurred.

As a member of the D

Notices Committee, Mr Treford said he was more than usually conscious of the delicate balance between national security interests and a newspaper's right to publish.

It was an article in *The Observer* which alerted the Government to the fact that Mr Wright was planning to publish his memoirs in Australia.

An article in June 1986 which provoked the Government's court action was published in "good conscience" in the belief that it contained matters of public importance which the Government had not prevented. Mr Wright venturing in an earlier television programme.

"I was, and remain astonished at the Government's reaction to what I considered to be a responsible and routine piece of journalism," Mr Treford said.

Freedom of the press was a very important right in any democracy and should only be subject to restraint if required by compelling state interests. That could no longer be the case, now that *Spycatcher* had been published, he said.

Mr Wright had made out a "sufficient case" to merit further public scrutiny about important matters. It was worrying in itself that a man so unsuited to security work should have reached high office in MI5 and operate at its centre for two decades.

Cross-examined by Mr Robert Alexander, QC, for the Attorney General, Mr Treford said he was concerned about the use of "prior restraint" on newspaper publication and the increasing practice of the Treasury Solicitor writing to editors seeking undertakings about what their papers would print. That was "alien" to the British system.

Police 'plot' over bombings denied

Only a film of the planting of the bombs in two Birmingham public houses 13 years ago could have provided police with stronger evidence against six men arrested after the explosions, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Mr Igor Judge, QC, for the Crown, told the court: "If there had been a film this would no doubt have been disposed of as part of a police conspiracy".

On the twentieth day of the appeal by the six men against their 21 murder convictions, Mr Judge said the allegation that police officers had conspired to invent false confessions was "baseless".

He said it would have been "virtually impossible" to find stronger evidence, taken cumulatively, of the guilt of the arrested men, except a "film of the actual planting of the bombs".

The judge and jury at the 1975 trial of the men at Lancaster Crown Court had rejected the suggestion that there had been a carefully considered conspiracy. Nothing in the new evidence raised during the appeal at the Central Criminal Court showed that this conclusion was wrong, he added.

At the start of his submissions, Mr Judge said one of the six, Hugh Callaghan, had actually witnessed the "cruel results" of the bombings at one of the public houses, the Tavern in the Town.

Callaghan denied he had seen anything, Mr Judge said, but other witnesses told the jury how he had arrived home and described seeing glass and bodies flying about.

Mr Judge asked why Callaghan's own god-daughter and her father would lie to the trial. "Are they liars too, along with the police officers, friends, neighbours, and colleagues at work?"

Mr Judge said that during interviews by police, Callaghan sobbed, admitted he was a lieutenant in the IRA and said: "God forgive me. I want some help. I want some help."

The way he was described as acting by police, Mr Judge said, was only attributable to a man who had "seen what he saw", had some human decency left in him, and was keen to confess because of a sense of guilt.

Mr Tom Clarke, a former Birmingham policeman who claimed that the men were beaten up by officers, was a liar whose motives for coming forward were greed and revenge, Mr Judge said.

He was a "convicted liar" who had attempted to sell his story and had turned the offer down as insufficient, Mr Judge said.

Apart from the motive of greed he had also come forward for revenge. He was bitter about his conviction for the theft of £5 which had landed him a three-month jail sentence.

Mr Judge said Mrs Joyce Lyness, a former Birmingham police woman, had given evidence which was worthless.

He referred to her "dramatic" return to the appeal to confess she had earlier lied when she said she had not seen any violence.

She claimed she had kept quiet because of telephone threats. On her second appearance she alleged she had seen one of the men being kned in the groin by police officers.

Mr Judge said: "The Crown does not know what internal or external pressure caused her to fabricate this story. But she did fabricate it, there is no doubt."

The six appellants are William Power, aged 42, of Cranwell Grove, Patrick Hill, aged 42, of Kilburn Road, Kingstanding; John Walker, aged 52, of Enderby Road, Kingstanding; Robert Hunter, aged 41, of Riley Way, Kingstanding; Richard McKenny, aged 53, of Epsom Grove, Kingstanding; all Birmingham; and Hugh Callaghan, aged 57, of Stanwell Grove, Erdington.

The hearing continues on Monday.

Police chief's lawyers ask for £91,000

Solicitors acting for the former chief constable of Derbyshire, Mr Alf Parrish, yesterday presented Derbyshire County Council with a bill for £91,000.

The bill covers Mr Parrish's legal costs for court hearings and auditors' inquiries after his suspension three years ago after claims that he spent £28,000 on his office without council permission. He was suspended for more than a year before being retired by the Home Secretary.

Building a future in Meccano



Mr John Linder tinkering with a Meccano digger in the Meccano shop called "Eccentric" that he opened last December after giving up his job as an architect.

Mr Linder, aged 51, of Park Lane, Madeley, Shropshire, gave away his first collection when he was 15 because he was worried that he was too old to play

with construction toys (India Knight writes).

However, 10 years ago, while convalescing from an operation, he looked to buy another Meccano collection — the biggest set available — and found, to his horror, that it cost more than £250.

As a result, he decided to collect Meccano piece by piece through

answering advertisements placed by fellow enthusiasts and selecting the pieces he needed.

"But things snowballed", according to Mr Linder's wife, Mary, and the Linders opened their shop, named after a Meccano part.

(Photograph: Philip Dunn)

Ministers set on curbing right of silence

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government is expected to go ahead with proposals to restrict a defendant's right to silence after a secret meeting on Wednesday night between the Law Society, the police and Home Office officials.

No final decision has yet been taken, but in spite of strong opposition from lawyers at the meeting, an amendment is likely to be tabled to the Criminal Justice Bill before it has its second reading in the Commons before Christmas.

The Government had agreed to defer a final decision until the meeting, organized by the Police Foundation with the Law Society, so that there could be a full airing of views.

Yesterday participants at the meeting were not prepared to comment on it. But there is believed to have been no significant shift in views, with the Government still keen to do something to restrict the right to silence, and the Law

Society, Criminal Bar Association and civil libertarians strongly opposed.

The change contemplated by the Government would mean that where a defendant produces a new line of defence at his trial which he failed to mention at the police station, that could be commented on in the trial by the prosecution.

The Home Office describes the proposal as ending the "right to ambush" rather than abolishing the right to silence.

But the Law Society and others argue that it is still tantamount to abolishing the suspect's right to remain silent in the police station.

The change is supported by some senior legal figures, including Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice; Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, and Sir Frederick Lawton, the former Lord Justice of Appeal.

It is certain to arouse stiff opposition in the Commons.

Gap in the promenade

New cracks began to show last night up to 40 ft from a hole which has appeared on the seafront at Brighton, East Sussex. Engineers believe the sea could be eating its way

under the promenade.

The hole is already bigger than a double decker bus. Last night council officials were planning to close the main seafront road.



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An 8 year old pure Malt Scotch Whisky much enjoyed by the Villagers of Oldbury-on-Avon.

Killing of whites tied to land dispute in Zimbabwe

Multiracial sect found donors for farm project

From Our Correspondent, Harare

While the rest of the Zimbabwe up to 1985 was in a building slump, numerous contractors were rescued from bankruptcy by the burgeoning number of new, modernistic churches being erected for charismatic Christian sects.

The swing to Pentecostalism has not left Zimbabwe untouched. The mainstream Catholic, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, established in most cases before the arrival of white settlers, have expressed concern about their losses to the "born again" movement.

But it is small in numbers, drawn overwhelmingly from the country's white middle-class population of about 90,000.

Many receive funding from groups in the United States, Britain and South Africa. But unlike the conservative, anti-communist and often racist attitudes associated with American fundamentalists, the Zimbabwean Pentecostals tend to be multiracial, politically neutral and devoted to missionary and rural development work.

The Community of Reconciliation, the victims of Thursday's massacre and a group consisting mostly of Anglicans dissatisfied with

formal religion, moved into the Hope Fountain area south of Bulawayo in 1982, shortly after the guerrilla war had spilled into sleepy rural Matabeleland.

The community was regarded with awe for its apparently miraculous ability to find water. It turned successfully to market gardening, and members spent spare time preaching to neighbouring peasant farmers.

A year later, Mr Gary Kroeze, a preacher from Choteau, Montana, arrived and "grew into a position of spiritual ascendancy", said one former community member. He attracted funds from his home and from Kansas City, that city's South Fellowship taking a strong interest.

The money he brought in provided for the purchase of Olive Tree Farm. In his wake followed a regular flow of Kansas City and Choteau people, who would stay for a couple of years, living and working on the farm and bringing skills often lacking in such enterprises.

Mr David Emmersen came from Choteau with Miss Karen Iversdal about four years ago and fell in love with Miss Sarah Lovett. The two were to have been married today.

From Jan Raath, Harare

Last month the Zimbabwe Government faced up to the delicate political problem of land rights and evicted a conservatively-estimated 40,000 black squatters.

The evictions contrasted with previous indifference shown by the Government towards attempts by the country's 4,000 white farmers to secure evictions through court orders.

White farmers own about 40 per cent of Zimbabwe's 156,300 square miles, but the land is widely regarded as the ancestral heritage of the country's 8.5 million blacks.

Only in September did the Government actually square up to the problem, with an announcement by Mr Enos Chikwore, the Minister of Local Government, that "total war" had been declared on squatters. He directed local authorities to take "immediate action" against squatters and to use "police force" if necessary.

As far as can be ascertained, the bulk of the squatter evictions seem to be concentrated in the densely-populated east of the country. The people are sometimes removed with care and consideration, but at other times huts are simply burned down and the former inhabitants told to move on, carrying all their worldly goods.

Press reports detailed the removal of about 12,000 squatters in the less habitable

regions of Matabeleland and it is here — amid the provincial insurgency — that the squatter issue takes on an ominous meaning.

Among the squatters of Matabeleland, guerrillas find fertile ground for insurrection. The province's Ndebele-speaking people overwhelmingly support the opposition Zanu party.

The bitterness of the people against the excesses of Mr Robert Mugabe's largely Shona-based troops in the early stages of the war in the west is still strongly evident.

Guerrillas deliberately cut through miles of fencing to encourage the grazing of peasants' cattle on white farms.

They have left notes behind at squatter areas declaring the land "liberated territory".

Many times the death of a

white farmer has been preceded by a dispute with squatters on his ranch.

"This killing is connected with the squatter problem," said Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Home Affairs, at a press conference after Thursday's massacre of 16 missionaries and their families. "There is a co-relationship between squatters and dissidents."

Matabeleland farmers are keenly aware of this relationship.

On follow-up operations against guerrillas after one of the 66 murders of their fellows, they have found the tracks disappearing into the rural slums that mushroomed on the farms abandoned by whites unable to cope with life in the war zone.

There is also black regional resentment against the lesser levels of government development in the western provinces, and Harare's nickname in Bulawayo of "bamba zone" (which means "take everything" in the Chishalapa patois) has more relevance now than ever.

But Western aid agencies will list the millions of dollars of government and donor property that have been destroyed by guerrillas in the past seven years — ranging from gutted schools and murdered medical assistants, to destroyed boreholes and dip tanks filled with stones — which has done little to encourage development.



Mr Gerald Keightly holding his 18-month-old son, Barnabus. They and the rest of their family were massacred in an attack on their farm near Bulawayo on Thursday.



Mr Enos Nkala: He gave the news of the massacre.

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Welsh sorrow for massacred family

By Sam Kiley

Eighteen-month-old baby Barnabus was described as looking "just like a little scrum-half" by his father Gerald Keightly in a telephone call to his grandmother a month before the entire Keightly family was murdered at their farm near Bulawayo on Thursday.

The baby's great grandmother, 80-year-old Mrs Lilian Slade, who lives in Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, said: "I feel totally shattered to think the whole family has been wiped out. They were Christian people who never did anyone any harm."

Mrs Slade said she and her husband Fred were just getting ready to send their grandchildren and great grandchildren Christmas cards when Mr Leslie Keightly, Gerald's brother, called them from Zimbabwe to tell them of the killings.

Bandits set fire to the Keightly's thatched farmhouse and the family, Gerald, 40, his wife Marian, 39, and their teenage daughters Glynis, aged 17 and Deborah aged 15 as well as baby Barnabus were shot and hacked down with their guests, Zimbabwean Sarah Lovett, aged 26, her fiancé David Emmersen, aged 35, and Karen Iversdal, aged 34, both Americans, as they fled the burning building.

The Keightly family originally came from Bridgend, but emigrated at the end of the Second World War to what was then Rhodesia, where Gerald was born to Mrs Slade's daughter, Ivy, who still lives there. He married and settled on the large New Olive Farm, near Bulawayo. The

farm flourished and according to his grandmother the family "were very happy out there and lived very well".

The Keightlys stayed on in Zimbabwe at the end of the war of liberation in 1980, and determined to invest in the country's future, took out Zimbabwean citizenship. Mrs Slade said yesterday: "They did not worry about any trouble in the country. They always felt safe and apart from two robberies on the farm they never came to any harm."

The Keightly family, with the other 11 whites killed in the massacre, bring to 66 the number of whites murdered since the outbreak of dissident activity in Matabeleland in 1982. Then, guerrilla veterans of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zanu party (predominantly drawn from the Ndebele tribe) started a bloody campaign directed against the Government of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, and his (Shona dominated) Zanu PF party.

Mr Mike Wood, retired President of the Matabeleland Commercial Farmers' Union, who was until recently the chief security adviser to the farmers in the area, told *The Times* that both blacks and whites were "deeply disgusted by this barbaric act", and added that the farmers in Matabeleland were no more scared now than they had been during the last five years.

"We carry a weapon with us at all times and have security fences up around our houses and try and carry on as normal," he said. "What else can we do?"

Pretoria 'spy' gets 25-year sentence

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Justice Wilson Sandura, Zimbabwe's Judge President, yesterday sentenced an apparently emotionally disturbed white South African woman to 25 years in jail for spying and indicated that he would prefer to have her shot.

The judge found Odile Eone Harington guilty of espionage for South Africa against the African National Congress in Zimbabwe. He refused leave to appeal against the sentence.

After her description of "gross mistreatment" that included sexual assault while under interrogation by the Zimbabwe Central Intelligence Organisation, Mr Justice Sandura said: "The most appropriate sentence in a case such as this is, in my view, the death penalty."

"In some parts of the world the accused would, shortly after my remarks, be facing a firing squad."

Miss Harington admitted having been sent as a refugee by South African security police to Zimbabwe with instructions to infiltrate the ANC and relay messages to them.

The dark-haired, attractive young woman told the court that she had been whipped with electric flex and hosepipe. On one occasion, while she was menstruating, she was forced to strip naked and CIO officers spat at her private parts.

She said she was kept in solitary confinement and had her head thrust in a bucket of water until she came close to drowning.

Deprived of food, she was once taken into a Harare restaurant and made to watch while an ANC official ate a meal in front of her, she said. She also said she had made two attempts at suicide.

Pope scorns apartheid

Rome (AP) — The Pope yesterday told southern African bishops that he shared their condemnation of racial discrimination while deploring violence as a way of redressing wrongs.

He told them at an audience: "The only adequate solution to the problem is the conversion of hearts." The Pope expressed "full solidarity" with his visitors.

"Year in, year out, you have stood with your people in their needs, and at the same time you have withstood much unjust criticism in transmitting to them the uplifting message of the Gospel," he said. The Pope praised their struggle for human rights and "the fundamental equality of all persons", and urged "the banishment of systematic discrimination".

WORLD SUMMIT
Ershad declares
an emergency
Pardon for rebels
Broadcast strike
Flats raised in Berlin
Myth made

WORLD SUMMARY

Ershad declares an emergency

Dhaka — President Ershad last night declared a state of emergency in Bangladesh, banning all political activities and suspending fundamental rights (Ahmed Fazi writes).

An official announcement said all public demonstrations, political rallies and strikes had been banned and a curfew was imposed in Dhaka from midnight until 6am. The state of emergency followed violent civil unrest which has gone on since early November and a call by the opposition for a 72-hour general strike across the country.

Pardon for rebels General replaced

Bangkok — The Thai Government has pardoned 33 men accused of trying to overthrow it by a violent rebellion in September 1985 (Neil Kelly writes). But similar charges against seven prominent figures, including General Kriangsak Chomanan, the former Prime Minister, have not been dropped.

General Prachub Sontharangkul, the Interior Minister, said that those released yesterday were "not plotters but had been forced to follow orders" during the Army insurrection.

Peking (AP) — General Yang Dezhi, the Army Chief of Staff, who oversaw deep cuts in military manpower and defence spending during his seven-year tenure, was replaced yesterday by a younger officer.

The state-run Xinhua News Agency said General Yang, aged 77, was replaced by General Chi Haotian, aged 61, the political commissar of the Jinan Military Command and former deputy Chief of Staff. His retirement had been expected ever since he was dropped from the Communist Party Politburo.

Broadcast strike ends

Jerusalem — An eight-week Israeli broadcasting strike ended yesterday partly because journalists agreed that the public should have been able to know about Wednesday's Palestinian hang-glider raid as it was going on (Ian Murray writes). Under the back-to-work agreement, the journalists' claim that their pay should not be tied to civil-service rates will go to arbitration.

Flats raid in Berlin Fears over base jobs

Police have raided at least four East Berlin apartments as part of a crackdown on illegal disarmament and environmental groups which shelter under the umbrella of the East German Protestant Church, according to church sources (Alexander Johnson writes). Several people were arrested, including an artist, Martin Hoffman, and a writer, Lutz Rathenow.

Madrid — The dismissal of four Spanish employees of US forces in Spain, reportedly without the required authorization from the Defence Ministry, provoked fears yesterday about job security for 3,000 other workers employed at four American bases whose future is in doubt (Harry Debelius writes).

Smoker is stabbed

Bonn — A Cologne post office porter has been arrested for stabbing a fellow worker who broke an agreement that he would blow his smoke out an office window when having a cigarette (John England writes). The smoker, recovering in hospital from stab wounds, broke his pledge to his asthma-suffering colleague two nights ago when the temperature dropped to zero and it was too cold to open the window.

Myth machines chip in to American yarns

From Charles Bremner
New York

Everyone knows about the Chinese restaurant that served up dog, or the pet that was put in the microwave.

Like the alligators in the New York sewers or the saga of grandma's body, these are the apocryphal stories that circulate with infinite variation by word of mouth — and sometimes pop up as fact in newspaper reports.

These legends, usually nasty, often macabre, and nearly always claimed as the experience of a friend of a friend, go back to the earliest fireside folklore. But lightning-fast communications have speeded up the story-telling and added a technological twist that has provided a fruitful field for America's specialists in the urban yarn.

According to Mr Jan Bruvand, an researcher into the genre, it used to take years for folk tales to develop and spread. Now the advent of long-distance dialling, photocopies and computers have speeded the propaga-

tion of the 1980s variety greatly. Some experts have coined the term "Xerox lore" for the circulation of stories by office workers that are seductively plausible, have no basis in fact, and have a life of their own.

The Los Angeles Times recently fell victim to a current and gentle tale that usually involves a film star. It published and later retracted the story of a woman who became so flustered on seeing Robert Redford in an ice-cream parlour that she stuffed her cone in her handbag and licked her purse.

Another enduring legend of recent years is the Halloween sadist. Every American parent knows it is no longer safe for children to go out "trick-or-treating" on the night of October 31 because there have been cases of sadists handing them apples with razor blades buried inside. Not true, the experts say. It never happened.

Halloween was also behind a tale that swept the country last month and seems to have come from Chaucer. A woman makes love with a man she

assumes to be her husband at a local fancy-dress party and finds later she had been with the neighbour who had borrowed his costume.

Mr Bruvand, a Utah University lecturer who tracks legends globally, says the tanning story is this year's top tale. A bridesmaid or cheerleader wants a tan in a hurry, so she joins several tanning establishments and visits them all. Salons limit the number of visits for health reasons. She cooks her innards just like the pet in the microwave of a few years ago.

The biggest boost to the legend business has come from computers. With their capacity for passing information in informal networks, the computer is the ideal myth machine, says Mr Bruvand.

Computer operators, it seems, are superstitious souls. What they most fear is killer software, a real case of the ghost in the machine. This, in various forms, is a programme that has an undetectable and unremovable feature

that amounts to a phantom whose aim is to destroy all his files — or worse.

In a variation, the playful Cookie monster (from the children's programme *Sesame Street*) appears saying: "Me want cookie." If the operator fails to type "cookie", it kills all his work. In another, Richard Nixon appears, saying: "Want pardon — or else".

Less fun is the virus programme. This is a hi-tech version of the chain letter that finishes, in some versions, with nuclear war. What happens is that each secret programme has instructions to dial up three other computers at night and pass on its instructions. In the end, the chain leads to the Defence Department's most secret mainframes, with catastrophic results.

A function of the new myth, according to Mr Joel Best, a Californian sociology professor, is that they are impervious to debunking. "Urban legends are harder to kill than vampires," he says.

Britain in push for Rock deal

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said here yesterday before talks with Spain on the joint use of Gibraltar airport that he was determined to reach an agreement "beneficial to both sides".

But senior officials of both countries, who have worked practically non-stop in Madrid and London all this week to present Sir Geoffrey and Señor Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, his Spanish counterpart, with a compromise formula, emphasized that a delicate balance still needed to be struck.

Sir Geoffrey had gone straight from the airport to call briefly on Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, and then had an audience with King Juan Carlos before getting down to the talks scheduled to go on yesterday evening and be resumed today.

Britain and Spain are under pressure to reach an agreement so that EEC transport ministers can give the go-ahead to a European air-lane liberalization package at their December 7 meeting. This was vetoed by Spain, over the Gibraltar issue, in June.

London linked to Swedish arms deals

By Andrew McEwen

A British connection has come to light in investigations into the mysterious death of a Swedish government official.

It has put a spotlight, probably unwelcome to the Ministry of Defence, on a deal which was either secret or of which very little was known and which lasted 21 years. Between 1963 and 1984 Britain acted as an agent in selling weapons and ammunition made by two Swedish companies to a number of other countries.

There are allegations in Sweden that the customers included Middle East nations, which would be illegal under Swedish law. The ministry confirmed yesterday its role as an agent but refused to name either the countries which bought the weapons or the regions where the sales took place.

If proved, the allegations could

result in prosecutions in Sweden of officials of one of the companies, but there has been no suggestion that the ministry broke any British law.

Last January, Mr Carl Algermon, a Swedish war materials inspector, either fell or jumped under a Stockholm underground train. A police inquiry failed to establish whether the death was suicide or an accident, but foul play was considered unlikely.

Mr Algermon worked for a department of the Swedish Foreign Office which checks arms exports to ensure that no weapons go to countries which are at war or in volatile areas. The Middle East is such an area. Now a Swedish prosecutor, Mr Folke Ljungwall, has said that notes found in Mr Algermon's briefcase contained references to the British deal.

The notes indicated that Mr Algermon knew when he approved of

the sale of a naval gun to the Ministry of Defence in 1982 that it would be re-exported to Oman.

The hand-written notes were shown on Swedish television on Thursday.

If Mr Ljungwall's interpretation of the notes is substantiated, it would have a bearing on the central issue he is investigating: whether the Swedish Government knew that weapons sold to intermediaries would eventually reach countries banned from receiving them.

Reuters reported from Stockholm yesterday that executives of Bofors AB, the best-known arms manufacturer in Sweden, had said that there was tacit government approval of the deals, which would make them immune from prosecution.

In the notes, Mr Algermon wrote: "The export could be made to the Brits in this special case."

Mr Ljungwall commented:

"There is nothing to prove that Algermon knew of any more smuggling cases."

The Ministry of Defence said that the deal, which was terminated in 1984 at the request of the Swedish Government, appointed the ministry as an agent to sell weapons made by Bofors and by Forenada Fabriksverken, usually known as FSV.

Until 1983 the ministry assumed that the two companies would inform their own government of any weapon sales they made via Britain. A ministry spokesman argued that this was a reasonable assumption because FSV is owned by the Swedish Government.

In 1983 the ministry became aware of new Swedish regulations tightening controls. It informed the companies that in future the ministry would send the Swedish Government details of any sales made under the deal.

It also told the companies that they would be required to comply with Swedish regulations which call for end-user certificates showing the ultimate destination of the weapons. The ministry said Bofors confirmed in writing that it would comply with these requirements.

The weapons sold included Bofors 40 mm light anti-aircraft guns, ammunition and flares, 105 mm illuminating shells, and Carl Gustav 84 mm anti-tank guns.

The Bofors anti-aircraft guns have been standard equipment on Royal Navy vessels since the Second World War. One of the purposes of the deal was to provide a legal framework for sales of British vessels to other countries when armed with the Bofors guns. It allowed Britain to avoid removing the guns before selling the ships, and to continue supplying replacements, spares and ammunition.

Nato shifts spotlight to conventional weapons

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Senior Nato officials warned yesterday that despite Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's peace offensive and the Euro-missiles treaty to be signed in Washington shortly, Soviet defence spending was on the increase and the Soviet military threat showed "no sign of diminishing".

Officials strongly disputed a controversial report by the seven-nation Western European Union which claimed Nato assessments of the Soviet conventional threat were exaggerated.

Nato is to hold a series of high-level meetings before and after the Gorbachev-Reagan summit. Next Monday and Tuesday Nato defence ministers meet in Brussels to review ways of reducing the Warsaw Pact's advantage in conventional troops and

weapons, which has acquired dramatic new significance.

This will be followed by a review of European security by leaders at the Copenhagen EEC summit on December 4 and 5.

Officials said the INF treaty would completely alter the context within which Nato had to consider its strategy for deterring the Warsaw Pact. Sources said Soviet defence spending used to rise by 1 to 2 per cent a year at most. Nato intelligence estimates suggested it was now rising by 3 to 4 per cent.

A report this week by the Western European Union's parliamentary assembly defence committee took issue with the Nato view that the alliance is outnumbered by a ratio of three to one in tanks and artillery. It said Nato had

rough equivalence with the Soviet bloc in fighter aircraft; that the technology of Western air and naval forces was far superior to those of the East; and, above all, that although the Warsaw Pact had far more tanks, they were mostly obsolete while more than 30 per cent of Nato's tanks, such as the American M-1, dated from 1980 or later.

Nato officials yesterday countered this by pointing to the union report's conclusion that the Warsaw Pact still had an "overwhelming" edge.

"We know what we see on the ground," one official remarked. "We could do with a bit of glasnost in the military sphere."

Soviet defence spending is difficult to calculate, but Nato estimates put it at more than 15 per cent of the Soviet GNP.

Takeshita on beaten track

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japan's new Prime Minister called his country to arms against a sea of foreign woes in his first policy speech yesterday.

Mr Noboru Takeshita said Japan must liberalize its financial markets and work to remove trade problems with other countries.

But his speech to Parliament, which adhered closely to the foreign policy pursued by Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, his predecessor, broke no new ground.

His speech, supposed to establish the philosophy and something of the legislative programme of the new

Government, was deliberately unambiguous.

The leader of the opposition Japan Socialist Party, Miss Takako Doi, called it a speech without a backbone. The Democratic Socialist leader, Mr Junya Yano, said in a reference to the Prime Minister's address that he was hiding a sword under his robe.

But if there was a sword beneath the robe there was no sign of it yesterday.

Mr Takeshita's platitudes on foreign trade carry little impact: it is not the technicalities of access to the Japanese market that concern foreign Governments but the fact that Japanese companies are still

buying market share abroad by refusing to raise export prices in line with the strength of the yen.

As the Bank of Japan has observed, the yen has increased 59 per cent against the dollar since late 1985, but Japanese goods exported to the US over the same period have increased in price by 35 per cent.

Mr Takeshita told Parliament: "There may be times when we will have to ask the people to forbear and endure." He made it clear that the essence of his approach is to restore the faith, confidence and prosperity of Japanese regions.



One of the two French hostages released in Beirut yesterday, M Jean-Louis Normandin, being helped away by a French diplomat after he was freed from a car with M Roger Augue.

Royal Navy's Gulf workload rises

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain's Gulf naval force, the Armilla Patrol, has escorted 17 million tonnes of commercial shipping in the last three months after a substantial increase in its work rate.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who has just returned from the Gulf, told *The Times* yesterday that 10 to 15 ships a week were now being escorted through the Strait of Hormuz. The total for the year was already more than 320 vessels.

Britain's commitment to the Gulf sea lanes now involves one-third of its fleet and destroyer fleet because of the need for regular rotation of vessels and crews. Mr Mellor said no Royal Navy vessel nor any ships escorted by the patrol had been attacked.

Both the British and US navies face demands for the

scope of cover to be extended. An Iranian attack on a tanker on Thursday took place within view of a US frigate, which did not intervene as the US Navy's rules of engagement confine it to the protection of US-flagged ships.

The crew of the 66,000-tonne Kuwaiti tanker, Umm al-Jathathel, expressed dismay at the Americans' refusal to help. The vessel's name had been painted out and replaced with that of a Romanian tanker, the Dacia, in the hope of reducing the risks of attack.

British sources yesterday expressed irritation with the demands for deeper involvement. One official said it was unreasonable to expect countries which already made a sizeable effort to stretch themselves further. It is also understood that if a British warship witnessed an attack on a ship

not flying the Red Ensign it would ignore the incident, just as the US Navy did.

● **BAHRAIN:** Iraq claimed yesterday that its planes attacked an unidentified supertanker off the Iranian coast — its first acknowledged air strike on Iranian shipping since last Sunday (Our Correspondent writes). There was no independent confirmation of the attack on what Iraq's news agency called a "very large naval target".

● **SYDNEY:** Australia will consider sending a 20-man mine-clearing naval team to the Gulf in response to an approach by the US (Keith Dalton writes). Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, confirmed that the Cabinet would consider sending Navy frogmen rather than a warship or maritime aircraft.

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Cuban prisoners reject deal to end siege

From Christopher Thomas, Atlanta

A tentative agreement to end an uprising by Cuban prisoners at the maximum security Atlanta Federal Penitentiary collapsed early yesterday as inmates argued among themselves about the terms.

Government negotiators insisted that 50 of the 94 hostages, all members of the prison staff, must be released as a goodwill gesture before the agreement could take effect. Three prisoners' leaders accepted the demand but it was rejected when it was put to a vote of the 1,000 inmates who are holding the jail.

The siege at a minimum security detention centre in Oakdale, Louisiana, showed signs yesterday that it could end soon after six days of rioting that have reduced the modern facility to ashes.

One of the 28 hostages was released yesterday after being stabbed. The prisoner who attacked him, who is described as mentally ill, was also sent to hospital.

Earlier, another hostage was released as a sign of good faith as government negotiators said that they were close to a deal. Cuban-American leaders went into the prison to help as intermediaries. FBI officials said that they did not know details of the stabbing but did not believe it meant the hostages were to be killed.

The Atlanta crisis is potentially the most dangerous because many of the prisoners have been convicted of violent crimes and are mentally ill.

Conditions at the jail, built in 1901, are primitive and cramped. Most of it has now been destroyed by fire.

Rioting at both jails came after the announcement a week ago of a deal with Cuba to return 2,500 Cubans from the 1980 Mariel boat-lift in exchange for allowing 20,000 Cubans a year to enter the US. Those facing deportation have police records or are mentally ill.

Three prominent Cuban exiles are helping negotiations in Atlanta. They are Mr Roberto Perez, a political prisoner for 20 years who was freed in May; Mr Armando Vallederes, jailed in Cuba for 22 years and author of a best-selling book about his experiences; and Mr Jorge Mas Canosa, an adviser to Radio Marti, the US Government propaganda station broadcasting to Cuba.

Outside the prison itself, in a soaking holiday drizzle, scores of Cuban families waited for news. They know nothing. Most are penniless. Few speak good English. Across the street, plumes of smoke rise from inside the 17ft prison walls, a reminder of the previous night's burning. One Cuban is already dead. Others may have perished in a blaze that destroyed the jail's broom factory.

At the nearby Sacred Heart Catholic church, exhausted families snatch sleep and eat. The Immaculate Heart of



Angela Burgess, a relative of a hostage at Atlanta jail, tying a yellow ribbon, the symbol of homecoming, to the prison fence.

Mary Catholic church conducts Mass in Spanish. Every day more people arrive, invariably carrying children. All are convinced that their loved ones are to be deported back to Cuba.

Inside the grim prison Thomas Silverstein, a notorious multiple murderer, is trying to establish himself as a prisoners' spokesman. He is serving three consecutive life sentences. He stabbed one of his victims, a prison warden,

36 times with a home-made knife. Silverstein is an English-speaking American but a prison official said the Cubans regarded him as "their No. 1 hombre" because they feel he has stood up to the prison system.

He is so dangerous he was permanently isolated in a white-walled cell by 7ft cell and allowed out for exercise an hour once a week, handcuffed and escorted by four guards. The authorities are horrified

at the prospect of negotiating with the man who calls himself "El Berserko".

The highlight of each day remains the daily surrender of some inmates. They are led handcuffed down the granite steps at the main entrance of the jail, their legs manacled. They step awkwardly into buses with bars at the windows. Relatives gather round, desperately trying to see if their loved ones are among them. Some wives are in

panic. They see their husbands and believe they are being sent straight to Cuba. A young man sees his father on a bus and lies in front of the wheels, but police drag him away, screaming. As night falls candles are lit. Local charities send word that there is food at nearby churches. Scores of journalists wait for something to happen. A thousand police mill around and helicopters clatter through the damp air.

Ozal promise on prices as pressure builds

From Michael Dynes, Ankara

Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister of Turkey, is under considerable pressure from Mr Erdal Inonu, the leader of the main opposition group, the centre-left Social Democratic Populist Party, to defend the Government's economic track record in the remaining hours before tomorrow's general election.

As Turkey's 26-million electorate prepares to vote, Mr Ozal — who came to power in 1983 on the strength of his record as an economic wizard — responded to fears of further inflation and promised there would be no general price rises if his conservative Motherland Party is returned.

But with the annual inflation rate running at 45 per cent, Mr Ozal gave a warning that his administration would have to do whatever was necessary in a further term — including raising prices on some goods and services — to lay the foundations for continued economic expansion.

Mr Ozal, who was appointed by his electoral rival, Mr Suleyman Demirel, the leader of the centre-right True Path Party, to oversee the International Monetary Fund-sponsored economic stabilization programme in 1979, after Turkey's balance of payments crisis two years earlier, has pursued a controversial policy of single-minded economic growth.

Opposition parties reluctantly credit him with bringing the country back from the brink of economic collapse in the late 1970s, when the Government had to endure the humiliation of oil-tanker captains refusing to unload unless they were paid in advance.

The opposition parties insist that the Prime Minister's obsession with growth at all costs will lead to the economy resembling that of a Latin American nation, burdened by borrowing from abroad. Turkey's foreign debt already exceeds \$32 billion (£17.8 billion).

But as interest in the election takes hold here in the capital, Mr Ozal seems to have captured the imagination of the country with his election slogan "Turkey has leapt an age" — reminiscent of China's

"great leap forward" campaign in the 1950s.

Along Ankara's main Ataturk Boulevard, an immense picture of Mr Ozal, smiling down benignly, can be seen hanging from one of the city's main construction sites.

Nerves are frayed at his party headquarters, as activists dissect their campaign performance and try to reassure themselves that they are on target for the majority, needed to push ahead with the Prime Minister's economic policies.

In contrast, a beaming Mr Inonu is hoping that his brilliantly-executed campaign will cut Mr Ozal's majority.

Edirne, Turkey — Balgazi yesterday allowed eight children of Turkish descent to be reunited with their families who had defected to Turkey. Turkish news agencies said (AP reports). Their arrival brought to 32 the number of such children who have been reunited with their families so far this year.

down to size or even produce a hung parliament, forcing the Motherland Party to consider coalition government.

There is no hint of despondency among Mr Inonu's followers that the electoral system, skewed to accentuate the number of seats won by the largest party, and the widespread aversion to coalitions in the wake of the political paralysis they engendered in the late 1970s, will neutralize the impact of their campaign.

Mr Demirel's True Path Party appears resigned to the possibility of being beaten into third place. But the subject of many street-corner political debates is whether the leader of the Islamic fundamentalist Welfare Party, Mr Necmettin Erbakan, will take fourth place from Mr Bulent Ecevit's Democratic Left Party.

Under Turkey's electoral law, all electioneering will come to a halt today in order to give the electors a more relaxed atmosphere in which to consider their decision.

If they vote overwhelmingly for Mr Ozal tomorrow, the outcome could be known by Monday.

South Africans to see new Biko film

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Sir Richard Attenborough's film, *Cry Freedom*, about the life and death of the South African black activist, Steve Biko, and the white newspaper editor who championed his cause, has been approved for general release here without any cuts and with no age restriction on the audience.

Sir Richard's previous film, *Gandhi*, part of which was set in South Africa at the turn of the century and dealt with the issue of race discrimination, was also shown here uncensored. *Cry Freedom*, however, depicts events of contemporary South African history that still arouse high emotion and controversy.

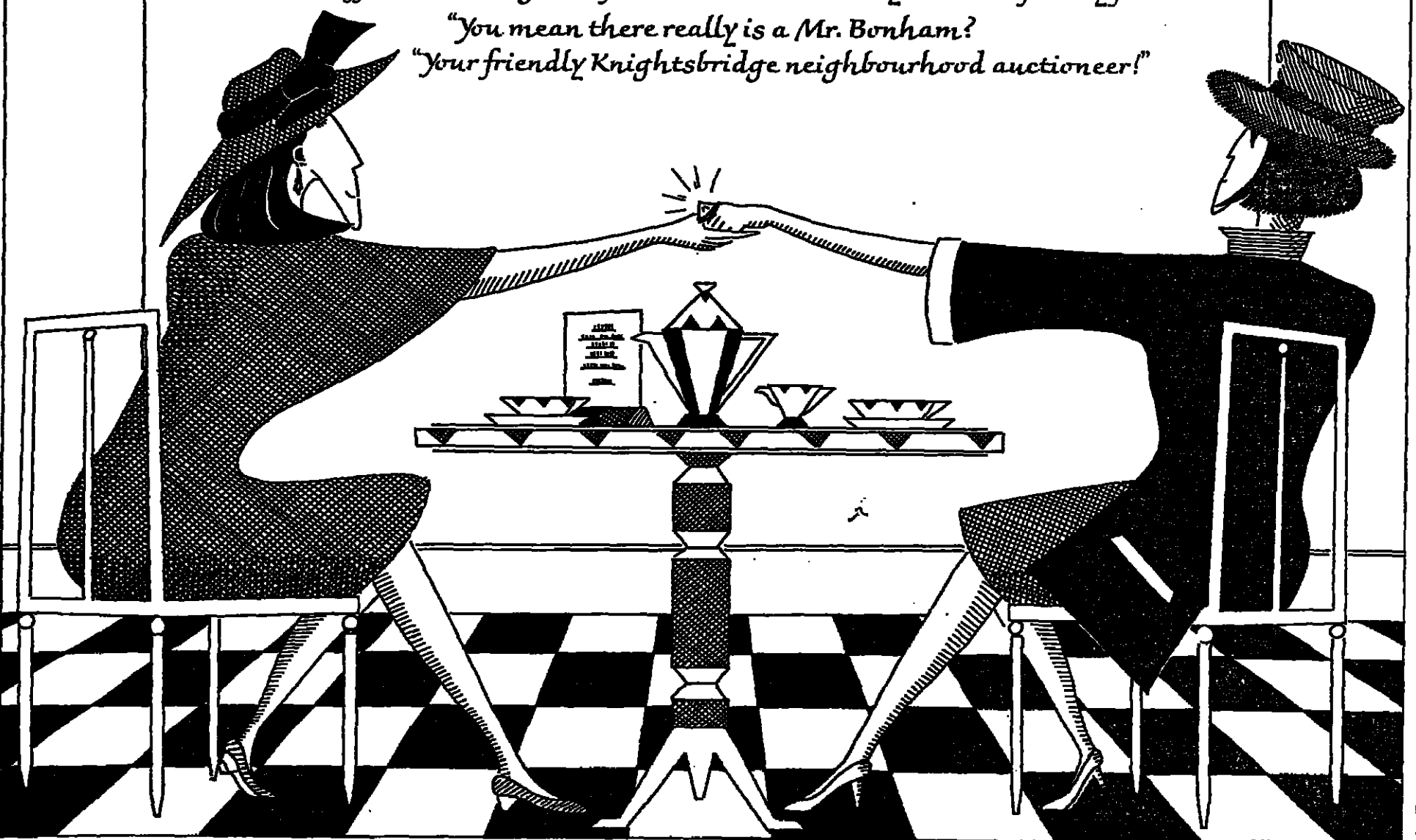
Harrowing scenes in the film of white police cold-bloodedly shooting down black youngsters in Soweto in 1976 could be argued to contravene state of emergency regulations forbidding the reporting of "unrest", even though the unrest in this instance is a fictional reconstruction of past events.

There are other legal ironies. Many of Biko's writings are still "banned" and cannot be quoted. Mr Woods, whose escape from South Africa through Lesotho is depicted in the film and who now lives in exile in Britain, is also "banned".

The decision to show *Cry Freedom*, announced yesterday by the Directorate of Publications in Cape Town to which all films must be submitted before they can be shown, highlights one of the more remarkable paradoxes of a society that is often too simplistically depicted as an unrelieved police state.

While the Government has imposed draconian restrictions on press freedom over the past two years under successive states of emergency, the official bodies responsible for censoring films, books and plays have promoted what, by South African standards, verges on an orgy of libertarianism.

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Kremlin orders big changes in ailing health care system

From a Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Union has announced a drastic reorganization of its overburdened and inefficient national health service, including compulsory annual medical check-ups and a new building programme that will add 1.5 million hospital beds by the year 2000.

The health system has been heavily criticized in the past by the official media, and is considered one of the areas where Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign of *perestroika* (restructuring) can show some relatively fast and tangible results. The Soviet leader, under pressure from conservative elements within the Communist Party to show concrete benefits from his reforms, needs a domestic success.

Pravda yesterday devoted three full pages, including the front, to the programme. The introductory section was brutally frank about the poor health of Soviet citizens, their devotion to alcohol and increased use of other drugs, and the inefficiency of the cradle-

to-grave free health-care system that has resulted in a reduced life expectancy for Soviet men in recent years.

The party newspaper said the average life expectancy was 65 years for males and 67 for females. Comparative figures in Britain are 71.3 and 77.3, respectively. The official report says that more than a third of the country's 283 million citizens are seriously overweight. The state provides seven billion roubles (£7 billion) a year in sick pay.

The reorganization involves a shift in emphasis from treatment of illness to preventive measures, and a national education campaign to teach citizens the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and diet.

The most ambitious aspect of the plan is the introduction of annual mandatory medical check-ups and "medical passports" for all the population by 1995. These documents will give health officials the date of each consultation and detail any illness or treatment. The annual state health

budget is 16 billion roubles. Soviet officials have said it must double for the reorganization to have any real effects. Half the budget goes on doctors' salaries.

An additional 1.5 million hospital beds will be available, along with out-patient clinics that can handle three million patient-visits per eight-hour shift. The clinic building programme is essential if the plan to introduce compulsory check-ups is to work.

Mr Yevgeny Chazov, the Health Minister, said a priority of the restructured health system would be to conduct a national fitness programme. "By 1989, we must see the introduction of a physical training programme with compulsory physical training exercises taking six to eight hours a week instead of the two to four hours now."

Medical school education, considered to be poor, will also be revamped. The plan calls for the state "to raise the professional skills" of medical personnel.

Filipinos clear up as Typhoon Nina's toll rises



A man in the town of Cavite, 100 miles south of Manila, battling to right his house yesterday, blown over as Typhoon Nina swept across the Central Philippines. The death toll reached 380 yesterday but is expected to rise when two badly hit areas provide their first casualty figures (Reuters reports). Brigadier-General Luis San Andres, the military

commander of the Bicol region, said more than 100,000 people were made homeless when the typhoon hit the area on Wednesday. Many of the casualties were reported in Sorsogon province where giant tidal waves smashed on to the coastal homes of fishermen. Rescue workers were battling through flooded areas yesterday searching for survivors in

deserted villages, damaged rice fields and coconut plantations. President Aquino declared a state of emergency in 11 provinces in the central part of the country. Rescuers have recovered 316 bodies in Sorsogon, 55 in Albay province and nine in Camarines Sur province. Thousands have fled to evacuation centres in churches and schools.

Cabinet crisis in Trinidad

Port of Spain — Mr Arthur Robinson, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, yesterday was putting together a new Cabinet after ordering the resignation of all 12 Cabinet ministers on Thursday (Jeremy Taylor writes).

At issue is the authority and direction of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction which swept to power last December. Mr Robinson has the power to reconstruct his Cabinet without recourse to either Parliament or to the electorate.

£5,500 award

Heidelberg (AFP) — The British biologist Dr Hugh Huxley, aged 63, has been presented in this German city with the World Cultural Council's £5,500 Albert Einstein award for research on chemical reactions in muscles.

Court battle

Bhopal (Reuters) — A court battle over compensation for victims of the world's worst industrial disaster resumed in Bhopal after settlement talks between India and Union Carbide Corporation failed.

Rebel held

Kampala (AFP) — Mr Smith Opon Acal, the former Ugandan Army Chief of Staff who became a rebel leader, has been captured by government troops in the eastern Mubale district, Uganda Radio said.

Drought toll

Delhi (AFP) — Diseases related to last summer's drought in India, described as the worst in a century, have claimed a total of 1,740 lives.

Three freed

Panama City (AFP) — Three opposition leaders have been freed after 45 days' imprisonment. They had been sentenced to six months for subversive conspiracy.

Nazi move

Canberra (AFP) — Parliament has passed the War Crimes Amendment Bill, which enables the prosecution of Nazi war criminals living here.

Brain fever

Colombo (AFP) — Japanese encephalitis, or brain fever, has killed 53 people in Sri Lanka over the past 10 weeks, the Health Ministry said.

UN to check 'beaten' children in explosive Gaza Strip

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Repeated claims by young children in the occupied Gaza Strip that they are systematically beaten up by Israeli soldiers are to be investigated by UN doctors. The claims come against a rapidly accelerating background of violence in recent months, in which scarcely a day goes by without demonstrations and arrests.

"You can feel the hatred building up over the last two months," Mr Bernard Mills, the British director of the UN Relief and Works Agency said. "It is like a miasma over the whole place."

Over that period he said the agency had become increasingly concerned by the repeated reports and stories from children in the refugee schools that anybody arrested by Israeli troops, regardless of age, was beaten up as a matter of routine. In consequence agency doctors would now be examining all children released by the security forces to collect evidence of ill-treatment for presentation to the UN.

The first dossier involved 12 youngsters who were arrested inside the agency training centre last Saturday during a violent demonstration protesting at the deportation order being sought against Aziz Odeh, who is alleged to be a spiritual leader of the Islamic Jihad group. The 12 took no part in the demonstration, but after their arrest three of them required hospital treatment. "I find this infuriating for two reasons," Mr Mills said. "First it brutalizes the soldiers who do it. Second it breeds hatred among the people."

Anger and violence are very close to the surface in Gaza these days. The 2,500 Israeli settlers in the Strip usually only drive out in convoys in their cars with the telltale yellow Israeli plates. They tend to use the country road along the beach rather than risk driving down the main route through the orange groves and towns where youngsters can throw stones at passing cars and escape.

The rise in violent resistance, especially among teenagers, appears to be the direct consequence

of the round-up of several hundred school children after demonstrations about a year ago, protesting at the shooting of two Gaza students.

According to one agency teacher, a kind of camaraderie built up among the young detainees, which survived and grew after they were released. "Refugee children used to be desperately eager for education," the teacher said. "They used to see it as the only way to escape from the camps. Now they are looking to violence."

After their arrest the youngsters lost not only their fear of prison, but even their fear of death, one health worker said. "Although they were badly treated, they came to the conclusion that it was not all that much worse than life in the camps and it was far more honourable. They are now the real leaders of the community."

The fact that there are so few job opportunities inside the Strip means that around 60,000 men and boys leave to find work in Israel. From 4.00 am the queue of cars and taxis start off up the road to places as far away as Haifa. Fourteen

hours later the men are back, exhausted, thinking of snatching a few hours sleep before getting up for the long journey north for work the next day.

Some of the children, like 14-year-old Ahmed from El Mughazi camp, play truant and go to work inside Israel too. He can earn 30 shekels (£12.50) a day in the Tel Aviv market, but since it costs £3 for the return fare, he sleeps rough and illegally in the city most nights to save money. There are hundreds like him of all ages. "A great chunk of our society is missing," the health worker said. So the leadership in Gaza is left in the hands of the young and the women, who are increasingly involved in clashes with security forces, especially if their children are arrested. Many draw inspiration from Islam, which fires their anger and makes them more prepared to die.

Last month Musbah Souri from El Mughazi died. An escaped security prisoner, whom the Israelis say was a member of the Islamic Jihad, the car he was travelling in was caught in an ambush. Four

days later his mother, Hanniah, was arrested. Ten days after that she was told in prison that her son had been shot. She was released and allowed to bury him, in the middle of the night in case there was trouble at the funeral.

Two of her other sons had been in prison and she has now lost her third home. The first was the farm near Ashdod from where she fled with her husband in 1948. The second was at Jabaliya camp, which was bulldozed flat 16 years ago for a road-widening scheme. The last was in El Mughazi, which was bulldozed flat this month as a punishment for her dead son's conviction for security offences. She is dry eyed and immeasurably angry, standing in the rubble of her home.

Her anger is contagious in the teeming camps where the population, at an average of 1,730 per square kilometre, is among the most dense on earth and is rapidly growing.

The 15 Israeli settlements in the Strip, which between them occupy about 8 per cent of the available

land, fire the resentment. The wells are turning brackish and drying up. Gaza, which has been a fertile oasis for hundreds of years, will need to import water in 10 years' time. The 2,500 settlers between them use one third of the available water on their land.

Seemingly oblivious to it all, the settlement at Gush Katif has built a bizarre luxury beach hotel on the golden sands which are one of Gaza's few natural amenities. "A world of untouched paradisiacal beaches," the enthusiastic brochure says. "... Discover the lifestyle of the neighbouring Moshavim (settlement) and meet the friendly Bedouin living and working as they have for generations."

These are some of the elements that make Gaza what Mr Ezer Weizman, Minister without Portfolio, called last week: "A time bomb waiting to go off."

Those on the spot say the fuse is now very short. "I think it is bound to explode in the next nine months to a year," one senior observer said. "The anger is too great to be contained much longer."

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Over the sea to sky

When you have no changing rooms, no showers and a ferry timetable that seems positively hostile to football, you have a hard time persuading people to play against you. A club official from the island of Mull sighed: "The greatest difficulty we face in developing the game is the horror that visiting teams show at our primitive conditions." However, this is a happy story: the Football Trust, which is run by the pools companies and which raises cash for the game's development with Spot the Ball, is spending £50,000 on lifting the game in the Scottish islands, with £25,000 going to Mull. The Shetlands, Harris, Lewis and Islay are also getting some assistance. Ness, a team on Lewis, get gates of 1,000. "Football is the most important leisure activity on the islands," a spokesman for the Trust said. "I have always been a great supporter of Islay myself."

Mr Cinders

This has been a year to salute the greatest trainer of them all. No, not Henry Cecil. I grant you he has not had a bad season but he has a way to go before he matches George Curtis. Curtis trained an animal to win 32 successive races, he trained another to win three successive Classics, and has trained 10 Classic winners altogether. All this with a reputation for being the most honest man in the sport, as well as the nicest man you could wish to meet. He just happens to train not horses but dogs, and has recently retired, if you can call it retirement — he has given up training and now merely works 14 hours a day as kennel head man; the man who was his head man is now the trainer. His achievements and his methods are chronicled in *George Curtis: Training Greyhounds*, which, as it happens, was written by my sister, Julia Barnes.

● A buzz reaches me that the 1989 Tour de France will start in Parliament Square. I'll buy my tip-off man a Perrier if he's right.

Blinders

It's always nice to hear stories about Ivan Lendl's off-concealed membership of the human race. He was recently asked what names John McEnroe called him during tennis matches, and he replied: "Just come follow me on the golf course, and you'll hear them."

BARRY FANTONI



"Well done. One day you might even decline a drugs test."

Agreed

Here is one more England cricketer goes test, from C. Overton who gets a Times tinner for his selection. 1. G. Boycott, for his run out of Randall in 1977; 2. C.W.J. Athey, for reverse sweeping; 3. M.W. Gatting — yes, in again for his double dismissal padding up in 1984; 4. A.W. Carr, who in 1926 put Australia in, promptly dropped Macartney on two and squirmed as Macartney made a century before lunch; 5. D.J. Insole, stumped for nought in 1950 in the last over of the fourth day as England fought to avoid defeat by the West Indians; 6. G. Miller, run out for nought by an 80-yard throw when not watching the ball; 7. G.O. Allen, for that 13-ball over in 1934; 8. A. McIntyre, run out going for a fourth when England were fighting to avoid defeat in Brisbane 1950-51; 9. A.C. Pigott, who postponed his wedding to play in a Test that was over in three days, England lost; 10. F.W. Tate, for that dropped catch; 11. E. Peate, for that missed sweep. Though I received this team some weeks ago, by cosmic coincidence five of his selections are the same as those in last week's team. But the first nine in this line-up all made first-class centuries.

● Maidstone United have a player who confesses that his long-term ambition is to be a bookmaker. His name is Alan Risk.

To the point

The trouble with these silly little tennis exhibition tournaments is that there is no real pressure on the players. So here is a format that seems to provide it quite comprehensively: Ivan Lendl, John McEnroe and a couple of others play this weekend in a tournament in America in which each player starts with £150,000 but forfeits £18,000 every time he loses a game. The two with the most money left will play a best-of-five-games final... with prize money for each game rising to £90,000.

By the year 2000 historians will be asking a wide variety of questions about the postwar era: why the Northern Ireland problem proved so intractable to solutions; why the costs of Britain's industrial decline were not acted upon earlier; why so little was made of the European opportunity; why Labour failed to adapt in the face of the steady erosion of its voting support since its high point in the 1951 general election; why Mrs Thatcher succeeded after 1979 when Heath failed from 1970-72; and why free market ideas took so long to bite.

More generally, there are questions they will raise about the poverty of much of British education at every level, of the radical changing structure of society and the balance of power within it, the impact of immigration, the erosion of religious allegiance and the breakdown of family life.

However, we should not have to wait until the end of the second millennium to explore these questions and disseminate the findings of historians. No 40-year period can compare for sheer pace of change with that since 1945. Yet it is the least studied in our universities. A period of comparable length. Historians exhaustively debate such matters as the causes and course of the English Civil War, but the postwar period is not deemed "proper history".

Historians criticize those attempting to research contemporary history for their ignorance of earlier periods; yet most historians in our universities and outside are remarkably ignorant of post-1945 history. Cuts in their budgets have not helped. Political scientists at universities devote endless time researching into British govern-

ment, yet, for all their efforts, they also are all too often historically illiterate.

The extent of ignorance about the major aspects of postwar British history is alarming. Barely 3 per cent of sixth formers taking history A level cover any contemporary topic. Few school leavers know anything about, for example, the end of Empire and Britain's changed world role since 1945; about the postwar development in British science and technology; about the origin and subsequent history of the EEC or the Northern Ireland problem; of the postwar records of governments and political parties.

To help remedy the position, the Institute of Contemporary British History was founded exactly one year ago. Modelled in part on institutes in other countries, it has sought through publications, conferences and other means to show that contemporary history can and should be studied, and that the benefits of doing so far outweigh the problems. It has been an uphill struggle.

One argument often employed against contemporary history is that the subject matter is too near, objectivity is difficult and the potential for bias is strong. This has force, but carefully devised, researched and monitored courses can reduce the risks.

Another argument is the lack of documentation. But while it is undeniable that the public records flesh out and provide chapter and verse, the broad lines are often known a long time in advance, especially if the right questions have been put to the key actors or witnesses. The long-heralded opening of the Suez archives in January 1987 fell flat largely because, for all the trumpeting of "new discoveries", so little of fresh significance was discovered. The same story will, in all probability, be true of another "top secret" affair, the Falklands war. With the help of the Franks Report and some excellent investigative writing, we already have a fairly full account of its origins and course.

Still there are undoubted difficulties in writing contemporary history and these are well illustrated by the problems of judging Margaret Thatcher's premiership — a challenge to which writers on this page have often risen. It may well be seen in 15 years time that Thatcher-watchers will have exaggerated the extent of a postwar consensus, and hence the significance of its dismemberment by Mrs Thatcher. It may well be also proven that insufficient regard has been paid to international factors that account for the success in the 1980s of a number of pro-free enterprise administrations. The political landscape by the year 2000 will, in all probability, look remarkably different.

But the difficulties do not invalidate the attempt by serious analysts to try to comprehend the Thatcher years. As David Marquand, Britain's first professor of contemporary history, wrote: "The notion that contemporary history is, in some strange way, less definitive than other kinds of history has always seemed to be fatuous. All historians are time-bound, whether they write about the remote past or the day before yesterday." The years pass new history will be written, neither better nor worse; they will offer different, longer and, one hopes, more international perspectives.

The survival of a free democratic society requires that its people know far more about how they arrived at where they are than the patry knowledge possessed by its citizens today.

Anthony Seldon is co-director with Peter Hennessy of the Institute of Contemporary British History. Their book, *Ruling Performance*, was published by Basil Blackwell last month.

But what of 1966 and all that?

by Anthony Seldon

Fleur de Villiers regrets Attenborough's white liberal epitaph

Biko: the final irony



Attenborough: sins of omission amid the meticulous detail

Steve Biko's path and mine crossed twice — once in life and once after the young black activist had died in a South African police cell in 1977. "Jimmy" Kruger, the South African Minister of Police at the time, was a man of stunted sensitivity and staggering credulity whose reaction to persistent press agitation over the mounting toll of deaths in detention was simply to parrot the weasel excuses of his police.

The day the news of Biko's death broke I confronted him over the coffee cups at the National Party's Transvaal congress. He could "control" both the international and the domestic response, he claimed. Finally, in desperation, I asked what he felt personally about the death of his prisoner. For the first time he looked genuinely puzzled. "What am I to Biko, or he to me? I didn't know the man, I never met him". Pleased with the phrase he had just coined, he walked on to the congress platform. "I have just been asked by a member of the liberal press what I feel about Biko. I told her it leaves me cold."

That scene, which continues to haunt South Africa 10 years later, is faithfully reproduced in Sir Richard Attenborough's much touted film on Biko's life and times, *Cry Freedom*, which had its London premiere this week. My first encounter with Biko several years previously was trivial by comparison, but no less revealing. It was a meeting of Saso, forerunner of the Black Students' Movement, at a Roman Catholic seminary in a dusty black "homeland" near Pretoria. Partly because of Biko's own charismatic personality, partly because black consciousness was a new and obviously potent form of black dissent, it was attended by journalists from all the major South African newspapers.

One by one they were evicted, either because their papers employed black journalists but had not sent them to cover the event, or because they had sent both black and white reporters. I alone was allowed to remain after Biko argued with inescapable logic that my newspaper, which did not employ black journalists (a fault since rectified), had been neither deliberately hypocritical nor paternalistic. Simply backward.

It was this deep hostility to liberal condescension which had led Biko and other like-minded black men and women to found a black student movement in opposition to Nussas, the National Union of South African Students, whose open defiance of the government had seen many of its members arrested, banned or harried into exile.

Nusas, however, as a multi-racial organization, did not fit Biko's belief that black consciousness and black power were the only effective vehicles for black liberation. In this his views accorded more precisely with the convictions of the Pan African Congress than with the multi-racial ANC, from which the PAC had split in the early 1960s, thus creating a deep and murderous fissure in black politics which has lasted until today.

In the unrest of the last three years one fact which has received little coverage in the West, largely because it does not fit the easy view that black political opinion is homogeneous and united, is the brutal war between Azapo — the linear descendant of Steve Biko's black consciousness movement — and the United Democratic Front, which espouses the ideals of the outlawed ANC. It is unhappy true that in South Africa today more blacks are killed by other blacks fighting for post-apartheid supremacy than by the security forces. But that is a truth which, like many others, is studiously ignored by *Cry Freedom*.

In a film which lays great store by verisimilitude, events are reproduced with painstaking and often painful accuracy. South African accents, white and black, even in Azapo's mouths, are close enough. But if the film does not sin by commission, there are sins of omission made more serious by the fact that audiences, persuaded by the patina of accuracy, will take it for the truth — a truth too awkward, confusing and contradictory for film-makers with a simple message.

If *Cry Freedom* ignores the truth about black politics, it does nothing to dispel the notion that all white South Africans — with the notable exception of Donald Woods, the former editor of a small provincial newspaper who is both the source and the unlikely hero of Attenborough's epic — are murderous, racist thugs. Nor does it reflect the fact that

before and after Woods had fled the country to escape a banning order and publish his Biko memoirs. South African politicians, editors, lawyers and doctors continued to press publicly and vociferously for the truth about Steve Biko's death and the punishment of those involved.

The violent death of a prisoner, wherever it occurs, is an obscenity which cannot be excused by comparative morality. But it is worth remarking that if South Africa were as unremotely evil as Attenborough paints it, the inept and ineffectual which continued to dog its government for many years would not have been held and certainly not in the continuing glare of full publicity.

But if *Cry Freedom* chides away from puzzling complexities in its eagerness to convey a message, its greatest betrayal is of Biko himself. However engagingly portrayed by American Denzel Washington, he emerges not as a tragic hero, a man of depth, complexity and passion, but as emblematic and one-dimensional as an icon, the black man as perceived through white eyes.

Indeed, his death occurs halfway through the film, after which it degenerates into the rather spurious excitement of Donald Woods' flight. Attenborough — who relied exclusively on Woods' books as source material — says, disingenuously if revealingly, that, despite his four spells in police custody, Biko had led a "rather uneventful life". The more probable explanation is that a film which told the story, however inadequately, from a white perspective was deemed more palatable for white audiences.

In death, if not in life, Biko has thus become the captive of the white liberals' view of blacks. It is a pity, ironic epitaph for a man whose rallying cry was "black man you're on your own". But if the film fails Biko, it is as superficial as agitprop, neither Attenborough nor Woods will surely be too displeased. In the extraordinary hype surrounding its release, both have made it clear that it is the message that counts.

Interviewed on *Wogan*, Woods was explicit. It would be good, he said, if external pressure were to harden white attitudes in South Africa still further. The "good" he would welcome is further polarization, leading inevitably to thousands of deaths, both black and white, before the arrival of his United States.

It is an odd and chilling sentiment for someone who still mourns the death of one man. In fact it leaves me very cold indeed.

The author was political editor of the Sunday Times, Johannesburg, 1980-1986.

Mrs Thatcher's warning signal

delegation difficult. Their commitment to the task in hand may well be to the benefit of the organization they are running, but this benefit is bought only at the cost of emotional wear and tear. Lack of sleep is one of the first signs that the level of stress has become too great. People who sleep less than six hours a night are more likely to suffer from stress-related disease; it has never been adequately shown if this is because tense people sleep badly or if those who pack too much into their day place an unacceptable burden on their bodies.

Nobody likes to fight on two fronts but politicians are always doing just that, preserving their own position in the party or government and supporting it against the opposition. Further, prime ministers now have to fight Britain's case in the EEC.

Even worse than the political stress is having problems superimposed on it from the home. It is noticeable that Mrs Thatcher showed signs of excessive tiredness at the Palace on Tuesday after a week's punishing schedule, including overseas travel, and having to withstand one of the periodic and unjustified attacks on the business life of her son. Feeling faint is a very imprecise complaint so that doctors always have to make certain just what patients mean by it. To some it means that they feel dizzy and that the world is rotating, rather like a bed after they have been drinking too much; to others that they have become stumbling and clumsy; but to most people it is a feeling of light-headedness — other people seem far away, the sense of hearing may be altered, the knees feel weak, and they are conscious that they have gone pale and are sweating.

fortunately, none is found even though a history of over-long working hours with inadequate rest and irregular meals is often uncovered.

Stress, like pain, is subjective, and the capacity to withstand is not infinite. Mrs Thatcher has shown over the last 11 years that she has the character which shrugs off physical disability, whether it is a retinal detachment or an operation for varicose veins; she sleeps little and eats and drinks sparingly.

But history has also shown that, however determined and dedicated she is to implementing her political beliefs, she is also readily affected by human misery and anxieties over her family: a stressful combination.

As well as causing the more commonly recognized stress-related diseases, prolonged stress reduces the efficiency of the body's immune system. If the Prime Minister is to remain in good health for the next four, or nine, years she would be well advised to sleep longer, develop, like Winston Churchill, the knack of having a quick nap, to take more time off, to eat regularly and, above all, to prune her diary.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Robert Kilroy-Silk

Kinnock words but no action

"We still have very considerable influence in Liverpool City Labour Party", Derek Hutton of Militant boasts, truthfully. "You can't discipline me," Ken Livingstone laughed scornfully in Neil Kinnock's face — "I came fourth in the election to the national executive committee." The two statements made in the last few days demonstrate the arrogant confidence of the extreme and hard left and the powerlessness of the Labour leader.

His only response is to pretend that Hutton, Livingstone and those they speak for do not matter. Last week he confessed that there were still "superficial and spurious fundamentalist" pro-reformation people inventing heresies by Militant within the party. But the electorate had no cause to be alarmed. The "fundamentalists" and all the rest do not count. They are powerless, "on the fringe."

If only it were true. Yet the world knows his claim to be false. The evidence is overwhelming. If Neil will not admit to himself that there are large and powerful sections of the party that are passionately opposed to his leadership and to the values espoused by his new-model Shadow Cabinet then he is deluding himself now to an even greater extent than he did when he convinced himself on polling day that he had won the last general election.

Part of the problem with Neil, as his best friends will testify, is that he so often believes his own rhetoric. He reasons that if he says something often enough it will actually become the truth. He also thinks the words, the mere uttering of them, can solve problems. One big powerful speech on Militant and it will disappear, exorcised by his eloquence. One public rebuke to Livingstone and the little local difficulty is resolved. He never looks better or more authoritative, statesman-like even, than when he is dismissing the party's extremists and unattractive fellow-travellers with patronizing comments about their insignificance and ineffectiveness. The reality that remains is different, and depressing.

The fracas with the Brent East MP is but the latest and most publicized example of this. It is easy for the Labour leader to denounce Ken Livingstone at meetings of the Parliamentary Labour Party and the NEC and to castigate all that he stands for in strong and colourful terms. It makes good copy. Except that nothing has changed as a result.

Ken Livingstone continues to commit his heresies, but with even greater nonchalance and public attention than before. And no wonder. He knows that his views on Northern Ireland are shared by large sections of the party. As he gleefully points out, he was voted fourth in the party's annual

popularity contest — with far more support than for the moderates in the Shadow Cabinet. And he got his votes not in spite of, but because of his well-known position on this issue. He also knows that several of Neil's front-bench team are sympathetic to the "Troops Out" movement and appeasement of the IRA. The Campaign group of Labour MPs pledged Livingstone their support and so embarrassed their leader in the sensitive time after the Enniskillen bombing.

The same process — sincere condemnation of an embarrassing public humiliation of being unable to follow up the words with deeds — is demonstrated by the Militant infiltration of the party. Despite some expulsions, Militant is still influential, at least on Merseyside.

Some 16 months ago I resigned my Knowsley North seat because it had become dominated by Militant. "Rubbish," a naturally irritated Neil Kinnock retorted, too quickly. On *Newnight*, a couple of months later, to prevent the selection of a Militant supporter, he had to impose a candidate for the by-election. He was taken to the High Court by the local party and eventually had it suspended; a subsequent investigation found "a systematic and sustained abuse of party procedures" and recommended that disciplinary action be taken against the chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer and others.

Today, more than two years since the original complaint of Militant infiltration, the constituency party members, though suspended, still serve on the council. The same is true of Liverpool. There was never any doubt among those who know its violent and turbulent politics that a few fine words and a couple of expulsions would not deal with Militant. It is too firmly entrenched in Liverpool's local parties and the political structure to be wobbled out by an emotional conference speech.

Now there are public reports of a number of current councillors sympathetic to Militant, of the influence of its placemen within the administration, and of the way expelled councillors are said to use council offices and facilities to run a "government in exile". No wonder Hutton is so smug.

A party report last week revealed that jettisoning the extremists was regarded by the electorate as the most important task facing the party. So it is. Nor will the voters be fooled by great speeches and vehement denunciations. As the great Thomas Hobbes said, they know that "words are wise men's counters, they do but reckon by them; but they are the money of fools."

The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86.

Peter Brimelow

So much to be thankful for

New York

This Thursday (to adapt *Henry V* to a transatlantic setting) was the feast of Thanksgiving Day. And it is a real feast too. The Americans have rearranged most of their public holidays to give them the long weekends that make up (partly) for the fact that even senior executives typically get a mere two weeks' "vacation". But Thanksgiving is special: it remains fixed on the last Thursday of November. And it comes complete with a traditional turkey dinner at which everyone stuffs themselves silly, just like the British Christmas.

Of course, the Americans have Christmas as well. One of their endearing national characteristics, however, is that they innocently adore all celebrations, and in their practical way they have set about inventing excuses to hold more of them. Thus in the few years I have lived in New York, Halloween has been perceptibly establishing itself as an increasingly major event, complete with a parade, parties and the public wearing of fantastic costumes. It's like the Carnival in Venice — which the Americans would probably also appropriate if more of them had heard of it. (In New York they are already even celebrating it in Greenwich Village in honour of their patron saint.)

Thanksgiving is roughly equivalent to a harvest festival. It is supposed to date back to 1621 and the Pilgrim Fathers' day of prayer in gratitude for their first successful crop, which ensured that they would not have to endure the terrible privations of the previous winter directly after they landed, in which so many of them died.

But the historical evidence for a continuous tradition is thin, although several settler communities did sporadically hold such celebrations. Thanksgiving in its modern form really got going only during the Civil War, when the idea was taken up by President Lincoln after the battle of Gettysburg. Subsequently, it spread to the South.

No doubt contributing to Thanksgiving's modern success is the undercurrent of unease surrounding Christmas in American public life. The American constitution prohibits the federal government from establishing a religion. In recent years, this provision has been interpreted

rather radically to require the suppression of almost all public manifestations of Christianity. Christmas itself is too deeply rooted and far too popular to be attacked directly, but all the Christmas cards you get from American corporations now say something studiously neutral, like "Happy Holidays".

Thanksgiving, by contrast, is a national myth in which all can unhesitatingly join.

Indeed, my observation is that it appeals particularly to immigrants, and is often the first sign that they are putting down roots. This process is accelerated by the very great natural generosity of Americans, who are often genuinely distressed that you might be alone at Thanksgiving regardless of whether you know what you're missing, and who will accordingly assiduously search out solitary newcomers and invite them into their homes and families, thus quite unconsciously making converts to the custom.

Which is actually definitely habit-forming. Assuming we can fight through the traffic, which is worse before Thanksgiving than at any other time of the year, we will eat our turkey at a farm in the hills or north-western Connecticut 100 miles from New York. Our hosts are Canadian citizens now living in America. In Canada, Thanksgiving is celebrated in October, partly because the Canadian winter dictates an earlier harvest and partly because of a characteristic Canadian desire to put a distinctive twist on their North American identity. Our friends' response to this scheduling disagreement marks them out, regardless of their national origin, as among nature's Americans: they simply observe two Thanksgivings.

Actually, two Thanksgivings a year underestimates the feeling of many immigrants. While thinking about this column I walked out of my apartment, nodded to the Cuban refugee caretaker, glanced at the news stand run by Indian refugees from Burmese socialism, inspected a new restaurant just started by Polish refugees and finally ate at another run by gentle refugees from Tibet.

It should never be forgotten that underlying the institutionalized chaos of American politics are a lot of people who are extremely glad to be here.

The author is a senior editor of Forbes Magazine.

November 28 - December 4, 1987

SATURDAY

Bringing the year to book...

Books for Christmas

Our critics' choice of the books which have given them pleasure

PETER ACKROYD

One of the most significant of this year's books must be Gerald Newman's *The Rise of English Nationalism* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £19.95). This account of the late 18th and early 19th centuries throws such a wholly new light upon the political and cultural life of the period that it illuminates obliquely our own.

VICTORIA GLENDINNING

We're talking about pleasure today, not literary prizewinning, which is not always the same thing. Bruce Chatwin's *The Songlines* (Cape, £10.95) is about an Englishman following the Aborigines' "dreaming-tracks", invisible pathways across Australia. It's also a traveller's notebook of thoughts and ideas - not really a novel, though it calls itself one, but a marvellous book. Ruth Prater Jhabvala's *Three Conversations* (Murray, £11.95) is a terrifying saga of greed and need about phoney Eastern mystics feeding off the lost souls of Westerners; and I loved Patricia Highsmith's *Tales of Natural and Unnatural Catastrophes* (Bloomsbury, £11.95) - funny, frightening and subversive.

ROBERT NYE

George Baker is still the Wild Man among contemporary English poets. Who else would dare rhyme *Apocalypse* with *umpire*? Yet Barker's *Collected Poems* (Faber, £27.50) demonstrate that he is more naturally a poet than anyone else of his generation, a fact that goes a long way to excuse the excesses of his worst work. The worst Barker is much worse than the worst A.E. Housman. So is the worst Keats. But at best Barker walks with Keats and Coleridge, and one or two others on hills where a Shropshire lad would find himself out of breath.

ISABEL RAPHAEL

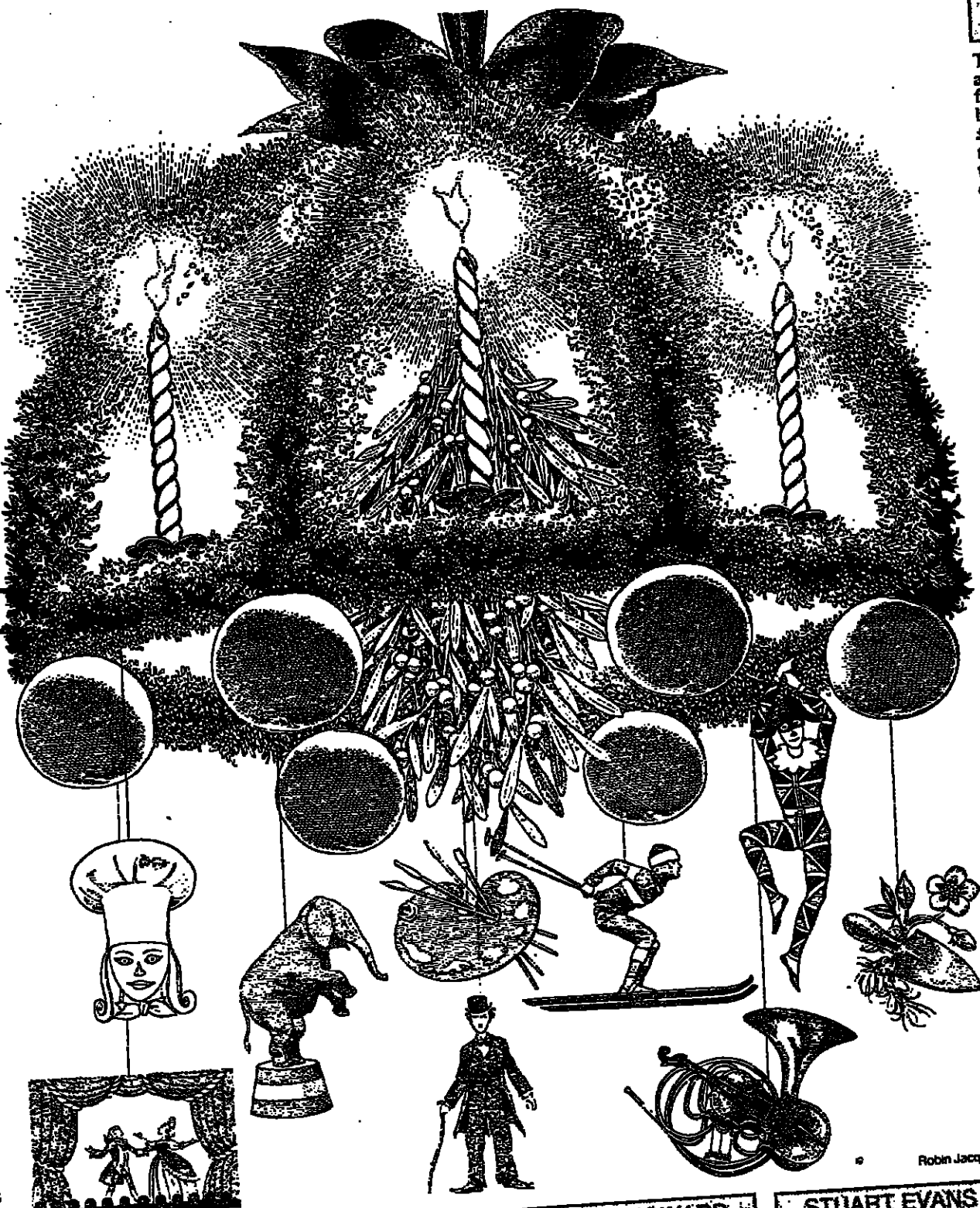
I shall keep three contrasting novels from 1987, which could have in common Pascal's mot: *Le coeur ne connaît point*. Not That Sort of Girl by Mary Wesley (Macmillan, £10.95), who remains as crisp and fresh as Soli's Mozart, with the same underlying depth of feeling; The Clothes in the Wardrobe by Alice Thomas Ellis (Duckworth, £9.95), where I was out of sympathy with every character, but emmeshed in the tortuous country dance they performed; and Laing by Ann Schlee (Macmillan, £10.95), an extraordinary journey into the interior of a continent and a man.

WOODROW WYATT

The disgraceful and funny Tears Before Bedtime by Barbara Skelton (Hamish Hamilton, £12.95), which tears off cruelly the butterfly wings of her lovers, friends and acquaintances, leaving me thankful that I knew her only slightly. The unpretentious, simple, comprehensive (with shrewd literary judgements) *Modern First Editions* (1987) by Joseph Connolly (MacDonald Orbis, £17.95) gives happy hours searching through your books to see which are now worth more than the published price. There are pleasant surprises among those published even within the last ten years. To The End Of The Rhine by Bernard Levin (Cape, £12.95) as entertaining as Marco Polo, but more accurate.

ELAINE FEINSTEIN

The Counter Life by Philip Ross (Cape £10.95) was the most enjoyable cunning piece of fiction I read this year. It tells a good many awkward truths with energy and wit. Another find was A.S. Byatt's book of short stories, *Sugar* (Chatto and Windus £10.95), which is remarkable both for the clarity and tension of the language and the unusual focus of the emotions. More recently, I enjoyed Emma Tennant's *House of Hospitality* (Viking £10.95), which turns on a sharp child's vision of bastions of English privilege in the Fifties.



TIM HEALD

Pity the judges of the Crime Writers' Association John Creasey Award for best first novel of the year didn't give their prize to Jack Curtis for *Crow's Parliament* (Bantam Press, £10.95). Also that the ever-reliable Gerald Seymour didn't feature on the Gold Dagger short list with *At Close Quarters* (Collins Harvill, £10.95). My (pretty educated) guess is that the judges didn't consider it a "crime" book, though it's difficult to see what could be more criminal than murdering the British Ambassador to Russia. In a bizarre way one of my favourite books of the year was The Len Deighton Companion by Edward Milward-Oliver (Griffin, £12.95), a work of stunning erudition.

RICHARD HOLMES

The Songlines (Cape, £10.95) by Bruce Chatwin. Our man in Patagonia goes waltzing Matilda in the Aboriginal outback to answer Pascal's question about "the nature of human restlessness". Auto-biography, romance and French-style *cahiers* are combined with great originality to explore a philosophy and ethnomusicology of travel. Ovid, Proust, Burton, Cain and Abel, Konrad Lorenz and the Buddha - all appear in Chatwin's intellectual walk-about. The writing is characteristically polished, quirky and thought-provoking. A fascinating, high-stepping book, which I have just carried in my own pack to the top of Skiddaw. No higher praise necessary.

PHILIP HOWARD

Leaving out the novels on the short-lists of the Booker and Whitbread, most of which are enjoyable in one way or another but have had enough publicity, here are three that should have been on a short-list. Not That Sort of Girl by Mary Wesley (Macmillan, £10.95), a characteristically funny and touching love story, with flashes of outrageous bitchiness, about a girl trapped for life in a suitable marriage, and coping. The Gooseboy by A.L. Barker (Hutchinson, £9.95), a tale of a husband and wife, the husband an ageing matinee idol, she in hot pursuit of him, and the narrative technique used, while Uppide's subtlety often involves the reader in resolving the fiction.

STUART EVANS

Two excellent collections. One, *Stories by Satyajit Ray* (Secker & Warburg, £10.95), is an enchanting mixture of fantasy, ironic realism and terror. Alongside believable people there are strange, super-naturally gifted beings as Ray guides readers from reality to almost credible science fiction. The other collection, *Trist Me* by John Updike (André Deutsch, £9.95) is an integrated study of aspects or notions of failure - professional, emotional, physical, sometimes poignant, irony. Each of the characters has a distinctive voice, whatever the narrative technique used, while Updike's subtlety often involves the reader in resolving the fiction.

ANDREW SINCLAIR

The most important and evocative novel to reach us yet from modern China, *Waves* by Bei Dao (Heinemann, £11.95), revealed the resistance of Chinese intellectuals to the Red Guards in the compelling voices of young men and women. Melvyn Bragg's *The Maid of Battemere* (Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95) explored finely the clash between the expectations of the Age of Reason and the Age of Romantic Revolution. His retelling of a famous scandal of the Lake District was rich in description and imagination. For enjoyment, the wicked and witty *Diary of a Yuppie* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95) by Louis Auchincloss was not surpassed all year long. As the ultimate dissection of the appalling amorality of the profit motive, the book is *The Rake's Progress* of a whole generation.

PETER LEVI

This year I read or reread numerous anthologies. The best collection of anonymous, traditional verse other than ballads we have ever had is John Holloway's new *The Oxford Book of Local Verse* (Oxford, £12.50), which covers everything from tombstones to old embroideries, weavers' songs and satirical bell-jingles. It is continually delightful, and often surprising. I bought a dozen copies of *Cats' Parnassus* by John Heath-Stubbs (Hearing Eye, Box No. 1, 99 Torrione Avenue, London NW5) to give away, because in it the famous cats of great poets reply to their masters in brilliant parody of Dr Johnson, Christopher Smart, Thomas Gray, Edward Lear, Matthew Arnold, and T.S. Eliot. This is a marvellously clever and funny pamphlet.

PETER JONES

What did Greek tragedy mean to its audience? In *The Poetics of Greek Tragedy* (Duckworth, £29.50) Malcolm Heath urges us to abandon intellectual preoccupations: its purpose was to move us emotionally. Heath embraces warmly the intentionalist fallacy, which should ensure that the rest-homes of Oxford do a roaring Christmas trade in deconstructionists with high blood-pressure. Did the Greeks have an old-boy network? Yes, argues Gabriel Herman in *Ritualised Friendship and the Greek City* (Cambridge, £25), but it was an inter-polis network, not just a system of local allegiances. Such ties were in many cases far more powerful than those of patriotism and created powerful conflicts with the values of burgeoning democracies.

RUTH STUNGO

No one with more than a passing interest in wild flowers should be without his copy of Geoffrey Crispin's *The Englishman's Flora* (Phoenix House, £25). A lifetime's love and study went into creating this unusual assemblage, in which he details, family by family, their histories, legends and common names, "what they have meant generation after generation to the Englishman in his daily life". Delight in the curiosities; detect the underlying fears that gave rise to such names. You will find affection for the common plants grows as your knowledge increases.

FIONA MACCARTHY

Richard Ellmann's *Oscar Wilde* is marvellous and monumental, but I really enjoyed more his smaller book *Four Dubliners* (Hamish Hamilton, £9.95). This study of an ostensibly incongruous quartet of literary Irishmen - Wilde, Yeats, Joyce, Beckett - is full of insights, revelations, amusements. I had no idea of W.B. Yeats's second puberty. Constructive and beguiling on the influence of place. George MacBeth's *A Child of the War* (Cape, £10.95) is a prize example of childhood reminiscence, an account of growing up in wartime Sheffield. The child's clear-eyed but wary view of adult cat-cynism is described in exact and lucid prose.

WILLIAM JACKSON

Three books stand out in the year's military list. Michael Carver's *Twentieth Century Warriors* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £16.95) gives him a strong claim to be this century's von Clausewitz and is well worth the close reading it requires. Max Hastings' *Korea* (Michael Joseph, £14.95) has become a best-seller and is in a class by itself as the first revisionist history of that misconceived and mistimed war. But for lighter reading, Charles Richardson's *Send for Freddie* (William Kimber, £12.50) is an enjoyable biography of Francis de Guingand, Monty's faithful and long suffering Chief of Staff, who has received so little recognition hitherto.

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Once upon a season

BRIAN ALDERSON CHILDREN

With apologies for the neglect of such seasonal offerings as Tony Bradman's *Potty Time* (Methuen, £1.50), and explanatory text-for-the-times like Mark Pownall's *Inhalants* (Watts, £5.95), here are some new books that try to keep Christmas in touch with its own traditions.

Tomie de Paola's *Book of Christmas Carols* (Methuen, £10.95) has music and words decorated with the artist's typical flat, patterned designs, some on folding, pull-out sheets. It is a graver book than his earlier comic *Mother Goose* in the same format; jollification is reserved for his new picture book in the sequence about a grandmotherly witch, *Merry Christmas Strega Nona* (Methuen, £5.95).

From Gerda Marie Scheidl comes *Four Candles* for Simon illustrated by Marcus Pfister (Blackie, £6.95), a banal and rather lumpy tale about a shepherd-boy seeking a lost lamb, but the glowing pictures are impressive.

The *Blenny Stories* by William Mayne, illustrated by Juan Wijngaard (Walker Books, £14.95) is Christmasy in that it tells of the magic month-by-month carving of miseries in a Priory Kirk, culminating in the time when "winter carols sound". It is also the season's most extraordinary book. By my count it brings to eight the number of (pretty eccentric) books that William Mayne has published this year, and this is the oddest of the lot, both for its concept of the Blenny carvers, with their heads beneath their



Lily's always dancing: a drawing by John Lawrence for *Whispers from a Wardrobe* (Lutterworth, £5.95)

shoulders, and in the incantatory half-dialect of its telling.

How Many Bugs in a Box? by David Carter (Orchard Books, £5.95) is a harbinger of presents. You lift the flaps on pictures of nine differently shaped and coloured boxes and count the creatures inside. An ingenious variant on the usual pop-up formula, to which may be added *Good*

Night, Jessie! by Mavis Smith (Simon & Schuster, £3.95) with its clever placing of slits in the pages, so that you find yourself peering through a door in one direction and then in the other.

Nursery Board Books by Jan Pienkowski (Heinemann, four titles, £1.50 each): conventional subjects - ABC, 123, Shapes and Colours,

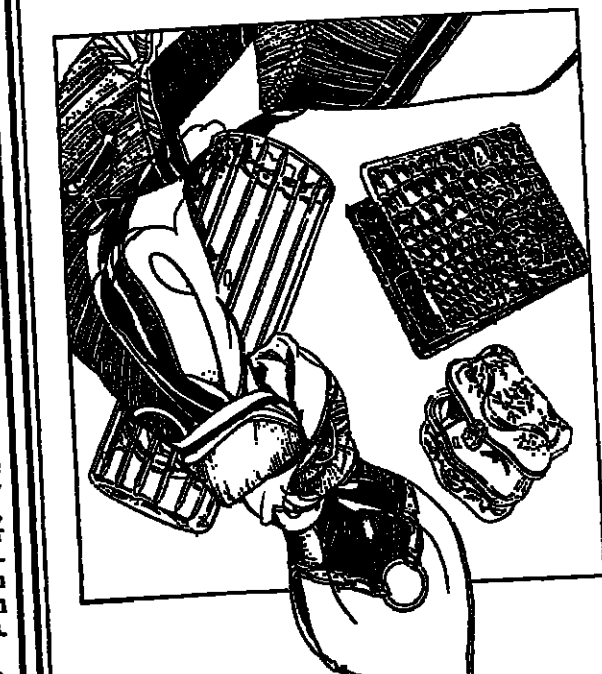
crisply drawn and painted and published as chunky little books that will fit nicely into Christmas stockings.

Other recommended new books: for younger children, *A Day of Rhymes*, selected and illustrated by Sarah Pooley (The Bodley Head, £5.95) is a well-organized collection that takes you from early-morning teeth-brushing to late night revels. The childish illustrations harbour some neat pictorial jokes. *Red Riding Hood*, retold and illustrated by James Marshall (Collins, £5.95) is the standard tale, including the final rescue, but never before recounted with such a witty balance of words and pictures. John Patrick and Norman McHemmes - *The Boy Who Was Always Late* by John Burningham (Cape, £5.95) had his excuses, but Sir never believed him, so eventually Sir learned a lesson himself. Clever pacing, with some new-style colour-effects.

For older children, *Jack the Treacle Eater* by Charles Causley, illustrated by Charles Keeping (Macmillan, £7.95) is a typical Causley mixture of ballads, character sketches and ruminations; the technique as natural - and as pointed - as ever. Then *Spooky Rhymes* by Willis Hall, illustrated by R. Barnes-Murphy (Hamlyn, £5.95) has Frankenstein's monster, Quasimodo, Dracula and others who do their worst to some fearful puns and limericks. The Phantom of the Opera spends half the book abducting Brünnhilde - only to regret it... And *Dream House* by Jan Mark, illustrated by Jon Riley (Viking Kestrel, £6.95) is a lovely piece of plottery, made doubly enjoyable by the unfaltering comedy and phrase-making.

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Books for Christmas

Continued from page 13

FRANCES BISSELL

Honey from a Weed by Patience Gray (Prospect Books, £17.50, Paperback, £8.95) remains the book I have enjoyed most this year. I move it occasionally from its permanent bedside spot to the rocking chair by the window on a cold grey afternoon, and I am transported by Patience Gray's loving and perceptive account of "fasting and feasting in Tuscany, Catalonia, the Cyclades and Apulia". Of course the recipes work.

ANNE BARNES

This year's most enjoyable paperbacks must include Vikram Seth's *The Golden Gate* (Faber, £3.95). It is funny and sad about all our lives, and all in rhyming couplets. Then, perhaps, Emma Tennant's *The Adventures of Robina* (Faber, £2.95), which brings back the Fifties with an 18th-century gloss, cleverly twisting the time warp. Finally, *The Secret Self* (Dent, £4.95), a collection of short stories by women writers - Edith Wharton to Fay Weldon - which excite, illuminate, explain and even soothe. Prop it up against the turkey.

TOM HUTCHINSON

Proof that there is life after death came from Old Father L. Ron Hubbard, founding father of Scientology, with his series of "Mission Earth": *Fortune of Fear* (New Era Publications, £10.95) - back to his slam-bang pulp days before he embarked on a bizarre career so fascinatingly recounted in biographer Russell Miller's tale. Greg Bear's *The Forge of God* (Gollancz, £11.95) was epic SF at its mind-extending best. But the haunting treat was to re-read David Lindsay's *A Voyage to Arcturus* (Alison & Busby, £3.95), republished in paperback after 22 years. A Blake-like vision of evil to which the description "genius" applies.

RICHARD WILLIAMS

The crucible of this century's popular music is the American South, where rednecks and the children of slaves engaged in uneasy and often clandestine cultural dialogue. In *Say It One Time for the Money* (Heinemann, £4.95), Barney Hoskyns examines the roots that nurtured Elvis Presley and Ray Charles - and the composer of "Johnny B. Goode", who

tells, in the unghosted and curiously roccoco formulations of Chuck Berry: *The Autobiography* (Faber, £9.95), how he came to write the songs about having fun with girls and cars (preferably simultaneously) that set the agenda for rock 'n' roll. *Jazz: The Essential Companion* (Grafton, £17.95) by Ian Carr, Digby Fairweather and Brian Priestley is a valuable and readable new guide.

LIZ SMITH

The fashion world has been en fête all year from the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of Dior's New Look in 1947 to the birth of couture's newest star, Lacroix, who neatly shares not simply the first name of the century's most famous revolutionary in style, Christian Dior, but his passion for elegance and an extravagant line. Françoise Giroud's sumptuous dossier *Dior* (Thames & Hudson, £75) luxuriates in the *couture ensemble* from the secrets of its boned foundation and silken lining to the outside showy effect. Kennedy Fraser's *Scenes From The Fashionable World* (Haffner, £10.95) is the second anthology of her *New Yorker* observations about people, parties, and the overblown pizzazz of the fashion business.

GILLIAN GREENWOOD

I enjoyed *The Short Stories by Muriel Spark* (The Bodley Head, £12.95) for their black humour and quirky, sharp observations; their mingling of the fanciful and the domestic. Marguerite Yourcenar's *Two Lives and a Dream* (Aidan Ellis, £9.95) offers an alternative landscape, historical and fabulous, in which to enjoy her rich imagination and thought. Arthur Miller's autobiography, *Time Beings* (Methuen, £17.95) is my favourite book of the year: a wise, humorous, reflective book displaying an extraordinary self-knowledge.

JOHN NICHOLSON

For the second year running the Booker boys and girls got it right. The Lively Appreciation Society salutes them, because Moon Tiger (André Deutsch, £9.95) took the author into uncharted emotional depths. She did not flounder. Another old favourite waddled across a sea of sand. The heroine of Bernice Rubens's *Our Father* (Hamish Hamilton, £9.95) bumped into God in the Sahara. Then brought Him back to Surbiton - with delicious results. Scott Turow's *Presumed Innocent* (Bloomsbury, £12.95) left a nastier taste in the mouth. But it made a clever and compulsive flagship for this year's most completely rejuvenated genre - the American crime novel.

NICHOLAS SHAKESPEARE

The *Songlines* by Bruce Chatwin (Cape, £10.95) is the most stimulating, original, and distinctive book I have read this year. Disguised seductively as fiction, it is the result of a lifetime on the hoof - observing, reading, theorizing. Chatwin's premise is that the Aborigines lay claim to their territory by singing it in the way that birds do. Purporting to describe a journey through Australia in search of these invisible tracks, it is a novel that - rare for an English author - takes on practically everything under the desert sun. The only novels I remotely enjoyed as much were Toni Morrison's *Beloved* (Chatto & Windus, £11.95) and the marvellous *Mary Wesley's Not That Sort of Girl* (Macmillan £9.95).

MARCEL BERLINS

Reginald Hill has for a long time been one of our best traditional crime writers, but in *Child's Play* (Collins, £8.95), featuring his usual police duo Dalziel and Pascoe, he has topped even his own high standards of characterization and plotting. Scott Turow's complex American cop and court room drama *Presumed Innocent* (Bloomsbury, £12.95) is tight, clever, well written, and the best of its kind for years. Most enjoyable debut was Joan Smith's *A Masculine Ending* (Faber, £9.95), which combines humour, a good story, erudition, and, in Lorena Lawson, a sparky academic female sleuth who should go far.

TOM CLARKE

Sports books used to fall into four categories: reference, auto/biographical, reportage, instructional. Now there is much activity in a newish breed: the showpiece volume for the sports library or the clubhouse table - shiny, expensive, sometimes a themeless self-indulgence. *Golf: The History of an Obsession*, by David Stirk (Phaidon, £25) has the gloss and price. It also has scholarship, style and love, in the writing, in the selection of pictures (from Italy in 1624 to Turnberry in the 1980s), and in the presentation.



Ida Rubinstein (whose feet are killing her) by James Abbe, 1921, from *The Fugitive Gesture*, by William A. Ewing (Thames & Hudson, £25). Catching dance on film is like fishing for salmon with bare hands. A master of dance-photography publishes 200 duotone dance plates from Nijinsky to Astaire

Jokes to choke a Greek god

PETER JONES HUMOUR

Readers of *The Times*, soaked as they are (at least for the moment) in a Classical education, will recall readily the trick that Prometheus played on Zeus to ensure that, when the Greeks sacrificed, the inedible parts would be burnt in honour of the gods while humans received the juicy bits. Not that, those Greeks. I should therefore announce that I, too, have adopted old Greek customs and made a significant holocaust to Hermes, god of jokes. To him, the rubbish: all books about condoms, sex, marriage and private parts; all books illustrating hundreds of ways of doing things; all joke collections, especially those gathered by MPs; all disaster books; every book about golf; all cartoon collections, except Larry's look at umpires, *Orzatz* (Robson Books, £3.95).

Since, to judge by the sheer tonnage of these desperate jaw-breakers, the market for them must be stupendous there is a fortune (and the blessing of every Christmas reviewer) awaiting the publisher who compresses them into one terrifying composite volume, illustrated by Fluck and Law in co-operation with *Punch* and entitled, let us say, *101 Uses of Jokes about Golf during a Great Private Parts Disaster in the House of Commons* (ed. R. Hattersley).

While Hermes, therefore, chokes over that lot (and serve him right), we

shall address ourselves to the subtlest and most exquisite cuts from this year's banquet of humour.

The *World Encyclopedia of Lies and Utter Fibs* by Karl Shaw (Buchan & Enright, £4.95), a book which at first glance I was determined to hate, turned out to be a magnificent spoof on all those grudgingly puerile trivia quiz-games. Did you know, for example, that Sinn Féin, translated literally, means jacket potato? That the staple diet of the Sudan is cheese? That Mao Tse Tung was once a pools collector for Vernons?

It's about time that you did, especially with Mr Baker's wonderful tests for seven-year-olds on the horizon. *French Widow in Every Room* by Dennis Winston (Unwin, £5.95) trends familiar ground, but still produces miracles of English from the continuing. There are the usual menu howlers (Bowels in Spit, Utmost of Chicken as Hungarian, Geaps of Lamp Greece with Gumpoes) and a truly heroic German camp-site notice: "What offers the civilization beside the nature? The animals let see in the fresh morning - and cool evening hours. Out the Naab-waves snap gasp for breath pines and eels." Sounds like paradise to me.

Constructing their narrative entirely around the illustrations available in Whiteley's Catalogue (Harrods refused the use of theirs), E.V. Lucas and George Morrow in

What a Life (Collins, £5.95, first published 1911) trace the story of an English aristocrat from birth to baronetcy. The earnest solemnity of tone and the manic logic of a narrative derived entirely from situations suggested by an Edwardian sales-catalogue have produced a tiny masterpiece.

But essays are surely the medium of humour through which we British most often hit the bull through the back of the net for an eagle 147. Frank Keating's *Gents and Players* (Robson Books, £4.95) offers one paradigm of the genre, somewhat loosely structured but bursting with good stories. I especially enjoyed the saga of Jack Crapp's boots. Bought for five guineas in 1936, they served him for 21 years as a player and 22 as umpire. When Keating asked to see them, Crapp said he had loaned them to the Scouts: "See the boots Jack Crapp wore - 5p".

Alice Thomas Ellis carries on in *More Home Life* (Duckworth, £9.95) where she left off in *Home Life*. Her suggestion that clergymen could improve attendances at church by painting their noses gold seems to me an important breakthrough in the Church's understanding of the needs of Wider Society.

Patrick Campbell was one of the finest exponents of the humorous essay. He wrote like a dream and has no superior in the art of exquisitely urbane self-mockery. The Campbell

Companion, edited by Ulick O'Connor (Pavilion Books, £12.95), contains 30 of his best essays, and a magnificently funny collection they make. Here Campbell, a renowned stammerer, and his similarly handicapped friend Theodore (who would whistle his way out of the clump) are under strictest orders from Mrs Gilbert to utter not a peep during an important lunch. Suddenly, the conversation dries up. Obviously, it will never start again. Campbell steps in:

I set myself to say, "I went bathing yesterday, and the water was as warm as toast." I became locked at once. My head turned slowly to the left, the rich blood already pounding into my face. I met the terrified gaze of the diplomat's wife, tried to smile at her, emitted three "ah ah ah ah's" instead, and then found myself centred upon Theodore, immediately opposite me. To my absolute consternation I saw that he was busy, too. The fool had thrown himself into speech as well, and was now whistling away in short, piercing trills, with his eyes clamped firmly shut. "I awah awah went." "I said to the brisk maid, and then my head started its journey back again. I caught a glimpse of Mrs Gilbert out of the corner of my eye. Her lips were moving in prayer. I had time to think that she was lucky to have them moving at all, when I became based upon Theodore once more. He must have played the whole of "The Bluebells of Scotland" by this time, but he was as far away as ever from saying anything.

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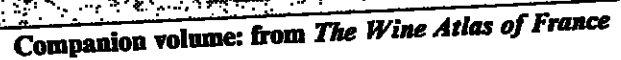
Two books by younger writers in their twenties get very near to this simply through their freshness and enthusiasm. *Ram Ram India* (Collins £12.95) by Alex Thomson and Nick Rossiter is a boisterous, tandem account of a wild bicycle ride down the entire length of the subcontinent, from Kashmir to the Cape, made in the winter of 1984-5. It is a mad book, built of an abacus of colourful encounters strung along their route — a tiger, a tortoise, a tumbling Sadhu, a Scottish doctor performing operations by torchlight. The tone is wide-eyed and up-beat ("Ram ram" is the Hindu equivalent of "Cheers"), and Thomson's narrator, makes revealing comic use of his fat, philosophic partner Rossiter. Their energy and astonishment make a captivating trip.

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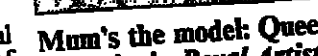


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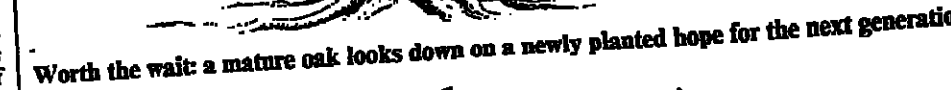
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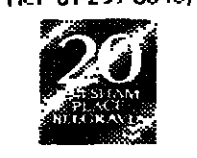


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Marylebone's Garbo's has pencil sketches of that actress on the wall, appalling Swedish folk music on tap, portraits of Sven and Anita or whatever the King and Queen are called, a totally Swedish menu, a largely Swedish clientele. Yet what makes it feel so authentically Scandinavian is the (Swedish) service's refusal to be flustered by one's complaints about its slowness; it is impossible to make these people lose their temper. Calmness is the Swedish disease — they are so damned reasonable when you point out that your first course, Jansson's Temptation, was ordered 40 minutes back: "Oh yah, is jos comin." Which of course it isn't.

And when it does, is it worth the wait? Negative. This gratin of potato, anchovy (or salted sprats) and cream is excellently prepared at London's top Swedish restaurant, Anna's Place in Stoke Newington: at this, London's only Swedish restaurant, it is over-salt and unamalgamated. The only non-fish first course, a cauliflower soup, errs in the other direction — it is ultrabland invalid food.

Main courses are rather better. Smoked eel is cooked in beer, served hot with scrambled eggs, chives and, inevitably, dill; the fish is sweetish, succulent and quite unlike smoked eel in its usual, comparatively natural state. With the exception of sauté potatoes (crisp exterior, fondant inside) the vegetables are dreary. Which is the last thing that can be said for a cucumber salad that came with some meat balls — it was aggressively sweet and sour and, another oxymoron on the tongue, crunchy and slobbery.

The meat balls themselves were liverish, served in a creamy sauce, pretty rich and altogether delicious. With two Pipp beers (sugary, hoppy) and a lemon tea served in a delightful glass with a handle on its stem the bill was £7 for two. It's a good deal if you're in a hurry and can bear to put up with, in addition to what I've mentioned, the noise of a kitchen staffed by a gang with the volume of (British) football hooligans.

Next door to Garbo's the basement has been done out with samovars, nests of painted dolls, lots of wood,

Jonathan Meades tackles unflappably slow Swedes, noisily rustic Russians and glossily bucolic Britons — all within a few streets of each other

Francis Mosley



rough floor tiles. This is Otchi's, where the one waiter is dressed in high Ruritanian style (knee boots, uniform with scrambled egg froggins) and where the collection of Russian horse brasses include one commemorating the Festival of Britain. You enter past a bar at which you sit on solid, cast iron stools of indeterminate vintage marked "Classic". The bar itself is topped with Perspex into which are set brightly coloured bottle labels including Kola Champagne (Manchester).

This bar dispenses thumbs of flavoured vodkas such as pepper and lemon — the latter, the former fiery — and Crimea Ruby Red wine which

is of curiosity value only. The cooking is a bit that way too. The finest Russian cooking was a French invention of the 19th century. The stuff that is served here is eclectic but predominantly rustic. From Armenia, for instance, comes a horrible, dense, egg and vegetable creation, a sort of educationally subnormal Spanish omelette topped with burnt grass. As with all such nightmares one wonders whether it is always this way or whether the kitchen has simply got it (seriously) wrong just this once.

Bortsch here is pretty solid with potato, cabbage and sizeable lumps of beetroot. A meat ball the size of a cricket ball is

served lukewarm with a mini flavoured tomato sauce; at its centre is a dried apricot — why? The sticky Turkish-type sweets are all right. This is doubtless a place to come with a party of inebriates in order to drink yet more and soak it all up with the cooking, which seems designed for such a purpose. The service is friendly and the space is a congenial one. I ate by myself, and paid £16 — say £40 for two with a few vodkas.

A couple of blocks north, in the basement of a smart private hotel, is Country Manners. It is a fine enough, done out with a mural of a Victorian *trompe l'oeil* by the yard. The effect is glossy magazine bucolic, and the girls who serve fit in — they're so chery and well scrubbed that you wonder what they're doing in the iniquitous Smoke. That's the good news. The cooking, which, as one might expect in such surroundings, is "English" — albeit with a few touches of indiscriminate exoticism — is pretty inept. Of the first courses only herring roes on toast was up to scratch. A turnip soup was too sweet by half. And some pasties filled with chicken were near inedible. The kitchen had performed the rare trick of turning filo pastry into cardboard.

And so it went on: a tough venison in a watery acidic sauce; a lamb casserole that relied for its flavour on tomato paste and chilli; a disgusting bread and butter pudding that was no such thing and which would have seemed just the ticket in a station cafeteria of 25 years ago. The things the kitchen got right were a steak with mushroom sauce and a crème brûlée. The prices are stiff and the wine list offers no bargains. Two will pay between £60 and £70.

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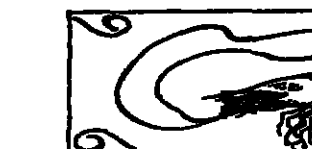
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REVIEW

Magnificent Mahler

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Mahler: Symphony no 2 (CBSO)
Rattle, EMI CDS 7 47962 8 (two CDs)
Mahler: Symphonies nos 6 and 10
(Adagio) Philharmonia/Sinopoli DG 423
062-2 (two CDs)
Brahms: Symphony no 1 Berlin
PO/Karajan, DG 423 141-2 (CD)
Brahms: Symphony no 2, Haydn
Variations Berlin PO/Karajan, DG 423
142-2 (CD)
Beethoven: Symphony no 7,
Overture "The Consecration of the
House" Dresden Staatskapelle/
Teile, EMI CDC 7 47815 2 (CD)

Even among the crowding peaks of Simon Rattle's achievements with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, their new recording of Mahler's "Resurrection" Symphony is something outstanding. And it is very much "their" success, a joint effort, not merely because the playing is so wonderful but also, and more importantly, because Rattle's tempos are felt and breathed by everyone concerned. This is to a very remarkable degree, a recording in which one does not sense flailing arms: things just happen, and happen with the greater strength for being general.

If the symphony seems therefore to be playing itself, that is of enormous benefit to one's awareness of its several voices. Contrapuntal clarity is partly an issue here, and certainly this performance puts more of the music on view than usual (the cello melody in the second movement, for instance, is for once properly forward, and very beautiful). But just as important is the ease with which different groups succeed one another in the same line, as when the main strand near the end of the first movement passes from horns to woodwind to trumpets to full orchestra with no break in continuity. This is the confident style of an orchestra that knows where it is going.

The long lines obviously help consistency; so do Rattle's speeds, which tend to be deliberate and impressively stable. Of course he



Simon Rattle

responds where a change is marked in the score (and sometimes where it is not), but each movement has an underlying pulse to which it keeps returning. The renewed steadiness at the close of the first movement, to take just one spectacular example,

makes an even more desperate effect than the rapid collapse most conductors prefer here: Rattle's implacability at the furious climax of this movement is also something to shake the soul.

The scherzo is full of precisely

conveyed disturbances at a more ironic level: as much a stream of echoes, snarls and sudden strangenesses as Berio made of this music in his *Sinfonia*, yet once more unified by rhythmic coherence. Janet Baker then impressively attains simplicity to accord with Rattle's coolly wonder-filled "Urlicht", and Arleen Auger and the CBSO Chorus join in with long-breathed exaltation in the finale.

This marvellous recording rather shows up the weakness and shallowness of Giuseppe Sinopoli's Mahler. His new version of the Sixth Symphony moves in fits and starts, with ensemble never entirely secure, and with the further disadvantages of grunted accompaniment and a rhythmic naivety that makes quick staccato music seem merely bathetic, whereas similar passages from Rattle are filled with humour or menace or both.

There is also disappointment in the first instalment of Karajan's new Brahms cycle. For all the sternness conveyed by many of the gestures, there is a strong feeling of lack of control, revealed by fuzzy ensemble (with high woodwind often wavering from the beat) and failings of continuity. The result is a distraught Brahms, certainly unusual, but not very convincing, except possibly in the variation set.

In its imposing solidity, Jeffrey Tate's Beethoven offers a startling and welcome contrast. Perhaps the funeral-march tempo for the slow movement of the Seventh Symphony stretches Beethoven's Allegretto a bit, but the Dresden flutes, clarinets and horns take advantage of the space to extend their references to a captured in an open acoustic and producing almost the sense of an outdoor performance. Elsewhere there is a pounding joy that cannot be ignored, a purposeful weight in the slowish finale, and an exultant togetherness.

Paul Griffiths

Many and various

ROCK RECORDS

Various Artists A Very Special Christmas (A&M A&A 9511)
Various Artists Now That's What I Call Music 10 (EMI/Virgin/Polygram NOW 10)
Eric B. & Rakim Paid In Full (4th & Broadway BRLP 514)

As usual at this point on the calendar, there are only a few days left until the LP chart becomes dominated by that ubiquitous art Various Artists. With *A Very Special Christmas*, the producer Jimmy Iovine has set the standard by which others will be judged, by involving an astonishing roster of artists to record Christmas songs.

Bruce Springsteen testifies on "Merry Christmas Baby", Eurythmics' Annie Lennox sings with a voice as cool and pure as the driven snow on "Winter Wonderland". The Edge catches Duane Eddy's twang on U2's "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" and Madonna hits the megatop jackpot with her version of Eartha Kitt's "Santa Baby". My favourites are Run-DMC's homely rap "Christmas In Hollis" and Bryan Adams' belting "Run Rudolph Run", but with contributions from Whitney Houston, the Pretenders, Sting, Bon Jovi, Alison Moyet and others, there is something of seasonal cheer for all the family.



Starry-eyed: some of A&M's Very Special Christmas crew

The speed with which hits become part of the *Now That's What I Call Music* series of compilations is breathtaking. *Now 10* includes no less than four of this week's Top 10 singles: songs by Whitesnake, Nina Simone, the Communards and T'Pau. Such singles cost £1.99 each, yet this double album, containing 30 hits in all, retails for £7.99. So who is still buying enough copies of "China In Your Hand" to keep it in the chart, let alone at No. 1, and please would they stop?

Listeners to Radio 1's much improved "instant" chart service last Sunday may have been surprised to hear a

sinister rap record built round a lilting motif created from a sound roughly approximating the whine of a dentist's drill. This was the brilliant Public Enemy single "Rebel Without A Pause", which together with Eric B. & Rakim's similarly exotic rap "Paid In Full" is currently in the Top 40. Both songs are nevertheless rarely to be heard on Radio 1. For more of the same definitive hard-nosed hip hop, check the seductive James Brown beats on the underrated album *Paid In Full*, and Public Enemy's bristling black pride ego-trip *Yo! Bum Rush The Show*.

David Sinclair

Eastern time

JAZZ RECORDS

Gary Peacock *Gumbo* (ECM 1352)
Marvin "Smitty" Smith Keeper of the Drums (Concord CJ-325)

Well known in the Sixties for his associations with such avant-gardists as Albert Ayler and Paul Bley, the bassist Gary Peacock disappeared to Japan for several years at the beginning of the Seventies. The series of recordings he has made for ECM since his return, beginning with *Tales of Another* in 1977, suggest that the Japanese environment provided a sort of finishing school for a musician already endowed with unusual levels of intelligence and instrumental technique. *Gumbo*, a quartet recording made earlier this year, suggests that he is now also a musical architect of the first rank. Assisted by two of western Europe's finest jazz musicians, the trumpeter Palle Mikkelborg and the saxophonist Jan Garbarek, and with his fellow American Peter Erskine at the drums, Peacock has devised a set of evocative and cunningly dove-tailed compositions that realize in a very personal way many of the implications of the innovations in group playing suggested by Ornette Coleman's Atlantic quartets and Bill Evans's first trio.

This is a music of great refinement and delicacy, its

love of economy surely a product of Peacock's immersion in Japanese culture, but at no time does it fall short of what we in the West call energy. The taut strength of Peacock's bass and the crisp power of Erskine's drums make sure of that, and the two hornmen are at their very best, Mikkelborg in particular proving yet again that he is one of the dozen finest jazz trumpeters currently active.

Keeper of the Drums is an altogether less intense affair, being the leadership debut of that outstandingly gifted young musician Marvin Smith, who—in the completeness of a technique that allows him to synthesize and develop the work of the very best of his forebears—could be said to be the Wynton Marsalis of the drums.

Like Marsalis, Smith has astonishingly fast reactions and the capacity to respond to anything that is thrown at him. The greatest modern masters—Blakey, Roach, Higgins and Jones—are present in his playing, and his eight compositions on this set prove that he can devise a pretty bold and easily as a machine hard-to-burner. Colleagues from the Dave Holland Quintet, including the saxophonist Steve Coleman, and several moonlighting Jazz Messengers, complete a septet of young lions.

Richard Williams

CHESS

Miniature win

A recent tournament in Belgrade resulted in a triumph for the erratic Yugoslav Grandmaster, Ljubomir Ljubovjevic. He won first prize in a strong field ahead of Ian Timman in second place. This was a welcome comeback for Ljubovjevic, who had earlier finished an ignominious last in an event of similar strength at Tilburg in Holland.

England's top player, Nigel Short, did not play up to his normal fine standard at Belgrade, but he did distinguish himself by winning a virtual miniature against that great veteran, Victor Korchnoi.

White: Nigel Short; Black: Victor Korchnoi. Giuoco Piano, Belgrade 1987.

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 Nc3 Nf6 5 Bb5

11 e4 e5 12 Nf3 Nf6 13 Bc4 Bc5 14 Nc3 Nf6 15 Bb5

But this is going too far. Korchnoi has a typically in-

genious idea in mind but has overlooked a tactical finesse. He had to play 11... exd4.

12 dxe5 Nxe5

Consistently pursuing the path to perfection.

13 Nxe5 Qg5

Planning to regain his sacrificed piece by virtue of the double attack, but Short has a nasty surprise in store.

14 g3 Ne2+

Korchnoi proceeds oblivious to White's coming coup.

15 Bxe2

This destroys Black's entire conception. Short obtains three pieces and the initiative for his offered Queen.

16 Nf3 Bxb3 17 Nxb3

Short's forces converge for the kill. All Korchnoi can do is struggle helplessly.

18 Nf3 Bxb3 19 Nxb3

Korchnoi could already have capitulated with a clear conscience, but he probably wanted to avoid losing a miniature, which is technically 25 moves or fewer.

And in playing that move Korchnoi resigned without waiting to see Short's reply.

Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Luck of the Greeks

When you are playing in the European Championships there are few opportunities to study the form of your rivals. But I did find time to watch Iceland playing Greece in the 22nd round. Both teams surpassed the hopes of even their most optimistic supporters, Iceland finishing 4th and Greece a most creditable 8th. As Iceland, strongly in contention for the medals, were to be our opponents in the last round, the match had a special significance.

The Greeks were lucky to gain points on this hand where they held the East-West cards. Iceland v Greece. East-West game. Dealer South.

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

(1) The widely adopted multi-coloured two demerits.

(2) Asking for clarification.

(3) Showing that the bid meant a weak two space opening.

(4) Unwise.

with a heart, which declarer won with the VK. The Q10 was covered in turn by the QK and the OA. East returned a diamond, which was as good as anything. The vugraph commentators prophesied that South would make 10 tricks, providing a swing to Iceland. But despite the favourable start, the hand still required care. South incautiously continued with the 4A, but when he played a second round of spades West inserted the 410. In trouble, South won with dummy's 4K and continued with the 49. West won the 4Q and switched to a club, which left declarer with insoluble entry problems.

If South, forewarned by West's double, had started the trumps with a low spade towards dummy's 4K98, West would have had no counter. His best chance is to insert the 410. But dummy can win and return the 49. Now when West wins and switches to a club, the remaining spade in dummy permits declarer to draw the trumps and then discard his losing club on dummy's diamonds.

If the Greeks were a trifle fortunate on that hand, they fully deserved their swing on this one, when they were North-South.

Iceland v Greece. Game all. Dealer North.

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

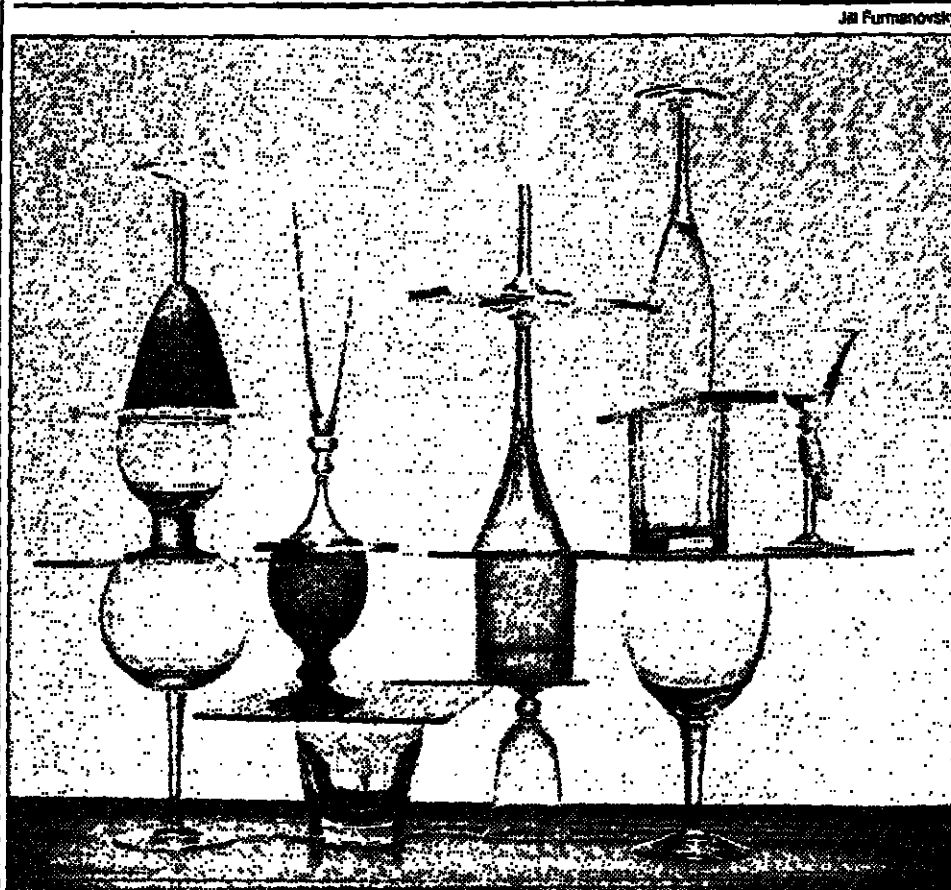
W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

W N E S
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102
K 98
Q 102
A 102

Jeremy Flint

SHOPPING



Top to bottom, left to right: frosted grey wine glass by Penny Wurr, £4.95 from The Futon Company; Spanish glass, £1.95 from large range at Liberty; oversized wine taster, £14.50 per pair, Heal's; Champagne flute, £21 Liberty; dark blue goblet, £5.95 Liberty; oversized 15oz spirit tumbler, £16.15 General Trading Company. Frosted peach-coloured wine glass by Penny Wurr, £4.95 The Futon Company; Opera sherry glass, £17.25 Perfect Glass; frosted blue tumbler by Penny Wurr, £4.95 The Futon Company; pink wine glass, £10.75 Liberty; Gatsby champagne taster, £15.95 per pair, Heal's; Adornment tumbler by Riechel, £12.15 General Trading Company; parrot-stem cocktail glass, £24.49 Perfect Glass; bottle glass, £8.50 General Trading Company.

Rose-tinted glasses

Nicole Swengley finds glassware to give or keep for yourself

Christmas or any other celebration calls for a set of good glasses. Some of the prettiest wine glasses and tumblers, hand-crafted in frosted grey, blue, pink or peach, can be found at The Futon Company, while Liberty stocks a wide selection of coloured glass from Spain and Italy. Over-sized wine goblets and spirit tumblers are also fashionable and available from General Trading Company and Heal's.

Party problems can be solved by a visit to London's Perfect Glass Shop, where there is a huge selection of glasses at all prices, from champagne flutes with matching bucket and punch sets to boxes of inexpensive tumblers, plus a range of tankards, decanters and jugs. If you are thinking of having glasses engraved for Christmas gifts, Perfect Glass can take orders up to 10 days prior to Christmas.



Left to right: Baccarat, £164 from a selection at Harvey Nichols; Directors by Dartington Glass, £31 from the Design Centre Shop; clear cut Torquay by Dartington Glass, £59 from major department stores; Illusion by Orrefors, £50.75 from Perfect Glass; Desk Glass, £49.95 from Heal's; Sharon by Dartington Glass, £31.50 from the Design Centre Shop.

All for fun

It's always hard to find jokey presents without wading through the heaps of vulgar puns which pass for humorous gifts in so many shops. We liked a ghost-shaped teapot, £17.50 from The Tea House, 15a Neal Street, WC2; *Spitting Image* Thatcher and Reagan puppets, £4.99 each from Selfridges in Oxford Street; house-shaped egg cosies, £1.68 from Naturally British, 13 New Row, WC2; and the selection here.



Left to right: ceramic Porsche book-ends, £4.99 (Reject Shop, The Plaza Centre, Oxford Street, London W1); rocket cookie jar, £19.95 (Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1); bullet-shaped flask, £20.80 (Fast Forward, 14a Newburgh Street, London W1); fish tie, £7.50 (General Trading Company, 144 Soane Street, London SW1); yellow rubber clock, £23.75 (Way in at Harrods); pyramid egg cup, £2.25 (Harrods).

NEWS LINES

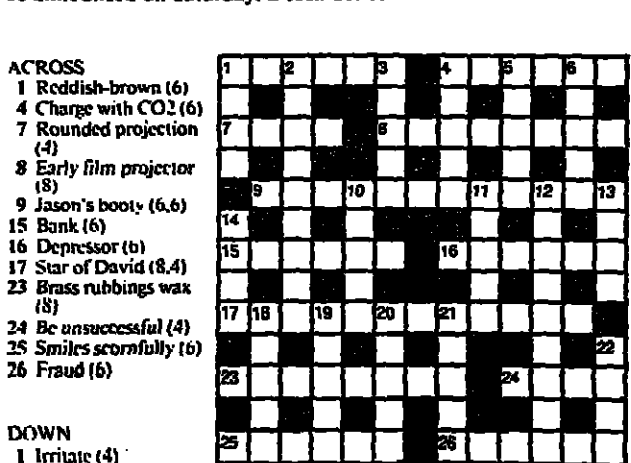
Many people prefer buying charity Christmas cards but don't always know where to find them. This year there are five shops in central London under the Charities Advisory Trust umbrella which stock cards from a variety of charities. They are at The Barbican Centre, The National Theatre, New Gallery, 123 Regent Street, W1; St Martin-in-the-Field, Trafalgar Square; and 25 Mortimer Street, W1. The Intermediate Technology charity card shop is at 9 King Street, WC2.

Rose bushes make unusual and welcome gifts, in particular the older French varieties which are often hard to track down at garden centres these days. Roses du Temps Passé offers a mail order service through which old roses can be sent directly to friends or family. An even better idea is its special pack containing gift vouchers and catalogue which enables recipients to select their own choice of blooms. More details from *Roses du Temps Passé*, Woodlands House, Stretton, nr Stafford ST19 9LG (0785 840217).

Gifts which offer recipients some flexibility in their use are always welcome. Barbican Centre vouchers can be exchanged, in whole or in part, for tickets for performances in its theatre or cinema and meals in the centre's restaurants and shops. They come in units of £1, £5 and £10 and are sold at the box office to personal callers, or by credit card over the telephone (01-638 8891).

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1425

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, December 3. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, December 5.



ACROSS
1 Reddish-brown (6)
4 Change with CO2 (6)
7 Rounded projection (4)
8 Early film projector (8)
9 Jason's booty (6,6)
15 Bank (6)
16 Depressor (b)
17 Star of David (8,4)
23 Brass rubbings wax (8)
24 Be unsuccessful (4)
25 Smiles scornfully (16)
26 Fraud (6)

DOWN
1 Irritate (4)
2 Of low intelligence (6)
3 Chan (5)
4 Sandollfish (5)
5 Blouse (fill) (5)
6 Essay theme (5)
10 Fantasy (5)
11 Guides (5)
12 Shore walk (9)
13 Courtes's husband (4)
14 Deeds (4)
18 Fuming sulphuric acid (5)
19 Slaver (5)
20 Pearls translucent gems (5)
21 Sound (5)
22 Split open (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1424
ACROSS: 1 Static 4 Tremor 7 Lips 8 Ave Maria 9 Clever 11 Unity 12 Somerset House 15 Mance 16 Acrotal 20 Trapezia 21 Zion 22 Deepen 23 Target

DOWN: 1 Selects 2 Ample 3 Chase 4 Trek 5 Martino 6 Ready 10 Verve 11 Usher 13 Mundane 14 Extinct 15 Mated 17 Trail 18 Bring 19 Azan

The winners of prize crossword No 1419 are: Miss M. Platts, Coldwell Lane, Sheffield; and J. Dawson, Drunkenville Road, Liverpool.

SOLUTION TO NO 1419
ACROSS: 1 Furrow 4 Suture 7 Fact 8 Epigram 9 Spick-and-span 15 Animal 16 Ignore 17 Kingsley Arms 23 Domestic 24 Peak 25 Myrtle 26 Tom-tom
DOWN: 1 Fife 2 Reception 3 Whet 4 Scion 5 Turps 6 RSPCA 10 Chaos 11 Dogma 12 Prominent 13 Noel 14 Sark 18 Irony 19 Greet 20 Lithic 21 Yacht 22 Skim

N.S.

THE WEEK AHEAD



CONCERTS

RARE VISIT: Eugene Istomin, the distinguished American pianist, has made music with all the best people in all the best places yet is little appreciated in Britain and rarely comes here. So his recital on Thursday will be a considerable event. He has chiefly been associated with major 19th century works, so his programming a Haydn sonata, Book One of Debussy's *Images* and an ambitious Rachmaninov group marks an intriguing departure. Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191).



THEATRE

JUDY, JUDY: Lesley Mackie is small in stature but has a powerful voice and a winning personality. Winner of a 1986 Laurence Olivier Award for her portrayal of Judy Garland in *Judy*, coincidentally also first seen in London at Greenwich, she returns there in a role created in 1956 by another Judy, Holiday. In Julie Styne, Betty Comden and Adolph Green's musical comedy *The Belles Are Ringing*, she plays a girl at an answering service who gets involved with clients' problems. Greenwich Theatre (01-858 7755) from Thursday.



DANCE

PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST: Christopher Gable, before he became an actor, was the Royal Ballet's brightest full grown male star. Tempted back to dancing to play the painter Lowry in the BBC TV production *A Simple Man*, he returns to the boards in *Manchesteer* this week (Monday to Wednesday) in the stage version of the same work, playing opposite Lynn Seymour whom he frequently partnered all through the Sixties. *Swan Lake* follows on Friday and December 5. Palace, Manchester (061 236 9922).



TELEVISION

MURDER STORY: David Threlfall plays a criminal who returns from Spain to avenge the murder of his 12-year-old son in *The Marksman*. Cancelled in the wake of the Hungerford shootings, Ron Hutchinson's three-part series is being shown without cuts though the producer Sally Head is adamant that it is not a celebration of violence. She calls it "an exciting thriller with lots of hard humour". The cast also includes James Ellis, Richard Griffiths, Paul Angelis and Leslie Ash. BBC1, Friday, 9.30-10.30pm.



GALLERIES

BRILLIANT CAREER: Adrian Wisniewski has enjoyed the kind of career young artists dream about. He was instantly acclaimed on graduating from Glasgow School of Art, his first London show sold out on the opening night, the Tate Gallery and New York's Museum of Modern Art have bought works, and he is still only 29. An exhibition of recent pictures, in which swirls of bright pigment describe tormented characters acting out weird fantasies, is starting today at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool (051 207 0001).



FILM

INTRODUCING EMILY: Emily Lloyd comes from an acting family, the Lloyd Packs, though that alone cannot explain her wonderful debut, aged 16, in *Wish You Were Here* (16). For this poignant comedy writer-director David Leland drew on the childhood of Cynthia Payne, the Streatham madam whose exploits inspired his script for *Personal Services*. But Lloyd creates a distinct personality for Lynda, the exuberant girl starved of affection in a post-war seaside town. Odeon Haymarket (01-839 7697) from Friday.

THEATRE LONDON

THE POINTLESS PLAYS: Bernard Padden and Eric Presland direct *The Nervous Kitchens* company in a double bill of comedies without a point. *Old Red Lion*, St John Street, N1 (01-837 7816). Opens Tues.

THE WAY TO GO HOME: Paines Plough present *Roma* Muro's study of two Scottish women who meet in Istanbul and get caught up in an international crisis. As premiered at the Belgrade, Coventry. Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 2554). Preview: Tues. Opens Wed. Until Dec 19.

OUT OF TOWN

BASILDON: Spy Society: Natural Theatre Company in a new show subtitled *Burgess, Philby and Maclean* (*The Musical*). Towngate Theatre (0268 23955). Opens Tues. Until Dec 5.

BIRMINGHAM: East: Snarling Beasts Theatre Company in Steven Berkoff's violent and vulgar satire. Repertory Studio (021 236 4455). Opens Mon.

BIRMINGHAM: Postman Pat's Adventures: Touring live show based on the television series, complete with full-size van and tractor, etc. Alexandra Theatre (021 643 1231). Opens Tues. Until Dec 5. Mats only.

BROMLEY: Blood Brothers: Kiki Dee leads in the touring production of Willy Russell's award-winning musical. Churchill Theatre (01-480 6677). Opens Mon. Until Dec 5.

PLYMOUTH: Black Love Songs/Irish Night: Temba Theatre Company present a double bill of American plays, by Ted Shine and Val Ferdinand: *Major Road* present a play with live music, by Garry Lyons and Patrick O'Sullivan. Drum Theatre Royal (0752 669595) B L S Mon-Wed; I N Thurs-Dec 5.

CONCERTS

LARSEN/LSO: Carter Larsen is a particularly adventurous American pianist and it is a pity he is not making his London debut in something more daring than the Grieg Concerto. Richard Hickox also conducts the LSO in Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891). Tomorrow 7.30pm.

DEMIDENKO RETURNS: Another pianist, the Russian Nikolai Demidenko, made a brilliant impression on his first visit and this time, surprisingly, he offers an all-Schubert programme—Sonata D 568, Impromptu D 899 and "Wanderer". Fantasy. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141). Tomorrow 4pm.

FIRST MESSIAH: The first major London *Messiah* of the Christmas season comes from the Philharmonia Chorus, Orchestra and soloists under Simon Preston. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Wed 7.30pm.

FOR STRADIVARI: Marking the 250th anniversary of the death of Stradivari, distinguished violinists too numerous to mention but all playing his instruments solo in works by Vivaldi, J S Bach and P E Bach. Haydn and Schubert with the ECO conducted by Sir Yehudi Menuhin. Barbican Centre, Wed 7.45pm.

FRANCO-SPANISH EVENING: The Philharmonia Orchestra is conducted by Antonio de Almeida in Lalo's *La Roi d'Ys* Overture, Chabrier's *España*, Falla's complete *Three-Cornered*.

Theatre: Tony Patrick: Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Clive; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Photography: Mike Young; Walks: Greta Carlaw; Television, Radio and Films on TV: Peter Waymark; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

FILMS

HOUSEKEEPING (PG): Director Bill Forsyth's first American feature—a muted period drama adapted from Marilynne Robinson's novel about two young sisters growing up with a spinster aunt in post-war Washington State. With Christine Lahti, Sara Walker and Andrea Burchill. Renoir (01-837 8402). Chelsea (01-351 3742). From Fri.

MY SWEET LITTLE VILLAGE (PG): Pleasant Czech comedy about the quirks and intrigues of village life; a bucolic work from Jan Menzel, director of *Closely Observed Trains*. Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470). From Fri.

PHOTOGRAPHY

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC POSTCARD: 1900-1920: In 1914 at the peak of the postcard boom 800 million cards went through the post in Britain. This exhibition documents the amazing lengths to which photographers had to go to feed this insatiable appetite. Subjects such as portraits, families, famous figures, landscapes and disasters are used as the illustrations. Sallis Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140).

TIM PAGE: Veteran Vietnam photographer. Tim Page is the first subject for this new photographic gallery. His earlier war pictures are complemented by photographs taken during more recent trips to the area. Exposure, 715 Fulham Road, London SW3 (01-385 3550).

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Tosca rules supreme at Covent Garden this week, conducted by Giuseppe Sinopoli and with Eva Mariotti and Peter Dvornik in a cast which also includes Ingrid Wixell's chilling Scarpia. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066). Mon 7.30pm and Sat 8pm.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: A powerful revival of Jonathan Miller's mafioso *Rigoletto* tonight. Wed and Fri (7.30pm), with John Rainsley and Arthur Davies. Susan Bullock now takes the part of Gilda and Paul Daniel conducts. Plus the new *commedia dell'arte* influenced *Barber of Seville* (Mon, Thurs and Sat) with Alan Ople in the title role. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA: Elegant new production of *Fledermaus* (Thurs and Sat); a welcome revival of their Janacek's *Cunning Little Vixen* (Wed); and two performances of their harum-scarum *Marriage of Figaro* (Tues and Fri). Mayflower Theatre, Southampton (0703 229771). All at 7.15pm.

CARDIFF NEW OPERA GROUP: Single performance of their Janacek double bill, *The Diary of One Who Disappeared* and *Savitr*, as part of the Cardiff Music Festival. St David's Hall, Cardiff (0222 373363). Mon 7.30pm.

ROCK

ALISON MOYET: A voice to move mountains, but without the material to match. Tonight and tomorrow Manchester Apollo (061 273 3775). Tues and Wed Wembley Arena (01-902 1234); Fri Cornhill Coliseum, St Austell (072 681 4004).

THE CULT: Heavy rock circa 1972 revisited. Tonight Brixon Academy, London SW9 (01-326 1022); tomorrow Wembley Arena, (01-902 1234); Tues Royal Centre, Nottingham (0602 426262); Thurs NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133); Fri, Manchester Apollo (061 273 3775).

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY: Outspoken pop-soul star; a minor sensation of 1987. Thurs Bournemouth International Centre (0202 297297); Fri Brixon Academy (01-326 1022).

RADIO

THE FOUR SEASONS: First of four archive wallows to celebrate 40 years of *Sports Report* looks at 1948 with memories of Don Bradman, Joe Louis and Henry Cotton. Radio 2, today, 1.30-5pm.



● Cheryl Campbell (above) stars with Rosemary Leach in *The Long Fidelity*, the story of a French engineer's daughter living amid the violence and confusion of Vietnam after the Second World War (Radio 3, Tuesday, 8.30-9.40pm). Francoise Campo-Timal's play launches a Radio 3 French drama week that also includes *Beatrice Andry's L'ou de trop* in the original production which won the Italia Prize. Radio 3, Friday, 7.30-8.15pm.

MARY STUART: Hannah Gordon plays Mary Queen of Scots, with Barbara Jefford as Elizabeth 1, in a free translation of Schiller's play by Stephen Sponder. Radio 4, Mon, 7.45-9.45pm.

JAZZ

BETTY CARTER: The inimitable singer brings another poised young trio to town. The support slot is occupied by the equally exciting Tommy Smith Quartet. Ronnie Scott's Club.

DANCE

LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE: One more performance today of the programme with Siobhan Davies's *Red Steps*. Next week (Tues to Sat) two more works new to London, Daniel Ezralow's vampire ballet to Bartok music, and *Maybe Tomorrow* by Christopher Benneman and Paul Chamberlain. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

ROYAL BALLET: *Giselle* returns this week with Lesley Collier and Mark Silver (Tues/Wed). *Swan Lake* is given tonight and the mixed bill with *The Dream*, *Galathea* and *The Concerto*. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: *La Fille mal Gardée* at Southampton tonight and Oxford Tues to Thurs, then four recent productions including Binyamin's *Allegro Diversi* and the Britten *Gloriana* (Fri and Dec 5).

DANCE

GALLERIES

MEXICAN FOLK ART: Skull and skeletal imagery predominate in this show of craft objects used during the 'Day of the Dead' festival. Serpentine Gallery, London W2 (01-402 6075). From today.

CLASS OF '87: Works by five of this year's outstanding art college graduates including Sarah Tombs's impressive sculptures. Louise Hallett Gallery, London W2 (01-724 9865). From Thurs.

IN ANOTHER WORLD: An international selection of work by so-called outsider or primitive artists. Stoke City Art Gallery (0782 202173). From today.

CREATURES OF FABLE: Zadok Ben David's light-hearted animal sculptures. Cartwright Hall, Bradford (0274 493313). From today.

EIGHT BY EIGHT: Work by 75 contemporary artists, none of which is bigger than eight inches square. Curwen Gallery, London W1 (01-636 1459). From Wed.

CARTOONS AND ILLUSTRATIONS: Works by a host of artists including Anthony Gross, Edward Ardizzone and Mel Calman. Sally Hunter Fine Art, London SW1 (01-235 0934). From Tues.

NEW COUNTRY — GETTIN' TOUGH: Andy Kershaw talks to the emerging stars of country music, including Randy Travis, Lyle Lovett and Nanci Griffiths. BBC2, Tues, 11.10pm-12.05am.

A DAMNED SERIOUS BUSINESS: Rex Harrison looks back on nearly 60 years as an actor in conversation with Patrick Garland. ITV, Wed, 9-10pm.

GALLERIES

YES, PRIME MINISTER: Jim Hacker renews hostilities with Sir Humphrey in the marvellous Anthony Jay/Jonathan Lynn sitcom. BBC2, Thurs, 9-9.30pm.

FILMS ON TV

PANIC IN THE STREETS (1950): Elia Kazan's taut thriller with Richard Widmark and Paul Douglas on the trail of criminals carrying a deadly virus. Channel 4, today, 1.05-2.50am.

BIRDMAN OF ALCATRAZ (1962): Burt Lancaster as the convicted murderer, Robert Stroud, who becomes a bird expert while in jail. BBC2, tomorrow, 10.15pm-12.15am.

SLEEPER (1973): Woody Allen wakes up 200 years in the future and unleashes an avalanche of gags, many of them inspired. BBC2, Mon, 9-10.25pm.



● Raymond Massey (above) in *Things to Come*, the spectacular 1936 Korda film from the novel by H. G. Wells. Among Wells's predictions for the future of mankind were war, plague, rebellion and the first rocket ship to the moon. The project was tailor made for a set designer and Korda employed one of the best, the American William Cameron Menzies, who also directed. Arthur Bliss wrote the score. BBC1, Monday, 6-7.30pm.

TELEVISION

NEW COUNTRY — GETTIN' TOUGH: Andy Kershaw talks to the emerging stars of country music, including Randy Travis, Lyle Lovett and Nanci Griffiths. BBC2, Tues, 11.10pm-12.05am.

A DAMNED SERIOUS BUSINESS: Rex Harrison looks back on nearly 60 years as an actor in conversation with Patrick Garland. ITV, Wed, 9-10pm.

Waiting for Godard



Licensed to doodle: Jean-Luc Godard (left) and a scene from his television film, *Grandeur et décadence*

Inviting Jean-Luc Godard and his recent work to film festivals is a dangerous business. Sometimes the films don't show up; if they do, he often doesn't. An audience always materializes, out of curiosity, or an unshakable belief in the *auteur* theory, though many soon eye the exit doors. Some hurt insults; others stay to worship and applaud, though even the patience of Godard's old admirers has its limits. Today the London Film Festival valiantly risks life and limb by showing three Godard works—a TV film from 1986, *Grandeur et décadence*, commissioned for a thriller series, a chaotic treatment of *King Lear*, financed by Cannon, and the recently completed *Soigne ta droite*. All are nearly sold out, though returns are always available.

At least Godard, now 57, can say "I'm still here!" though where he is headed is anyone's guess. He began in features in 1959 with *A Bout de souffle*, and quickly built a reputation for ground-breaking films with a quizzical attitude to history, society, and, especially, cinema. The

political events of 1968 pushed him into agitprop work: art-house audiences only re-established contact in 1980 with *Slow Motion*, where he dangled the carrot of established stars—Isabelle Huppert and Nathalie Baye. Since then, however, Godard has been gradually sliding back: he can still manipulate images like a magician, but his new concern for a "democratic" cinema, where no strand of material or element of technique takes precedence over any other, seems to have become a licence to doodle.

Yet he remains a name to conjure with. Menahem Golan certainly thought so when he drew up a contract for *King Lear* on a lunch napkin in Cannes. Many thought the film would never get beyond the restaurant doors, but two years later, here it is—a massively perverse farago featuring the theatre director Peter Sellers as William Shakespeare V Jr., a vice-president of the "Cannon Cultural Division" wandering through a post-Chernobyl world trying to reconstruct his ancestor's famous play.

The other films follow the same whimsical trend. *Grandeur et décadence* concerns a washed-up film producer and director trying to mount a James Hadley Chase thriller. Godard makes a cameo appearance bemoaning the difficulty of raising funds. *Soigne ta droite* (a boxing expression) was once described as "the camera versus landscapes over 17 rounds," but it has emerged as another collage of motley material—musicians recording in a studio; a worker trying to befriend various couples; travellers, on a nightmare plane trip with a suicidal pilot.

Geoff Brown

WALKS

LONDON BENEATH THE STREETS: meet today, Blackfriars tube, 11am, £3.

ALLEYS AND BYWAYS OF OLD LONDON: meet today, St Paul's tube, 2pm, £2.25.

FOOTSTEPS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: meet tomorrow, Covent Garden tube, 11.30am, £2.50.

ARISTOCRATIC LONDON: meet tomorrow, Green Park tube, 2pm, £2.50.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

THE HAPPY END: Series of concerts by 22-strong band, from Brecht to Weill to township jazz. Theloniou Monk, Chartist hymns and traditional Irish jigs. Dec 15-19. ICA, The Mall, London SW1.

LAST CHANCE

LAURENCE OLIVIER: 80th birthday tributes to portraits, photos and video film including Dali's portrait of him

as Richard III, and works by Alistair Morrison, Emma Sergeant, Howard Coster, and Cecil Beaton.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, London WC2 (01-930 1552). Ends tomorrow.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

GABION (a) A fisher basket filled with earth, used in fortification, from the Italian *gabione*, an augmentation of *gabba*, a cage.

LEISTER (a) A fish trident, from Old Norse *leisti*, to skewer.

QUILLON (a) Allegedly, but not persuasively, from the French for stickles.

ONAGER (a) From the Latin for a wild ass, which was supposed to kick stones backwards at its pursuers.

PHALARAE (a) A metal boss worn by horses as a military decoration in the legs.

Shows for Christmas

On Monday in the Information Service—a full guide to the best pantomimes and Christmas shows

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 8.15-9.00am *News*; 9.00-9.30am *Breakfast*; 9.30-10.00am *News*; 10.00-10.30am *Scottish News*; 10.30-11.00am *News*; 11.00-11.30am *News*; 11.30-12.00pm *News*; 12.00-12.30pm *News*; 12.30-1.00pm *News*; 1.00-1.30pm *News*; 1.30-2.00pm *News*; 2.00-2.30pm *News*; 2.30-3.00pm *News*; 3.00-3.30pm *News*; 3.30-4.00pm *News*; 4.00-4.30pm *News*; 4.30-5.00pm *News*; 5.00-5.30pm *News*; 5.30-6.00pm *News*; 6.00-6.30pm *News*; 6.30-7.00pm *News*; 7.00-7.30pm *News*; 7.30-8.00pm *News*; 8.00-8.30pm *News*; 8.30-9.00pm *News*; 9.00-9.30pm *News*; 9.30-10.00pm *News*; 10.00-10.30pm *News*; 10.30-11.00pm *News*; 11.00-11.30pm *News*; 11.30-12.00pm *News*; 12.00-12.30pm *News*; 12.30-1.00pm *News*; 1.00-1.30pm *News*; 1.30-2.00pm *News*; 2.00-2.30pm *News*; 2.30-3.00pm *News*; 3.00-3.30pm *News*; 3.30-4.00pm *News*; 4.00-4.30pm *News*; 4.30-5.00pm *News*; 5.00-5.30pm *News*; 5.30-6.00pm *News*; 6.00-6.30pm *News*; 6.30-7.00pm *News*; 7.00-7.30pm *News*; 7.30-8.00pm *News*; 8.00-8.30pm *News*; 8.30-9.00pm *News*; 9.00-9.30pm *News*; 9.30-10.00pm *News*; 10.00-10.30pm *News*; 10.30-11.00pm *News*; 11.00-11.30pm *News*; 11.30-12.00pm *News*; 12.00-12.30pm *News*; 12.30-1.00pm *News*; 1.00-1.30pm *News*; 1.30-2.00pm *News*; 2.00-2.30pm *News*; 2.30-3.00pm *News*; 3.00-3.30pm *News*; 3.30-4.00pm *News*; 4.00-4.30pm *News*; 4.30-5.00pm *News*; 5.00-5.30pm *News*; 5.30-6.00pm *News*; 6.00-6.30pm *News*; 6.30-7.00pm *News*; 7.00-7.30pm *News*; 7.30-8.00pm *News*; 8.00-8.30pm *News*; 8.30-9.00pm *News*; 9.00-9.30pm *News*; 9.30-10.00pm *News*; 10.00-10.30pm *News*; 10.30-11.00pm *News*; 11.00-11.30pm *News*; 11.30-12.00pm *News*; 12.00-12.30pm *News*; 12.30-1.00pm *News*; 1.00-1.30pm *News*; 1.30-2.00pm *News*; 2.00-2.30pm *News*; 2.30-3.00pm *News*; 3.00-3.30pm *News*; 3.30-4.00pm *News*; 4.00-4.30pm *News*; 4.30-5.00pm *News*; 5.00-5.30pm *News*; 5.30-6.00pm *News*; 6.00-6.30pm *News*; 6.30-7.00pm *News*; 7.00-7.30pm *News*; 7.30-8.00pm *News*; 8.00-8.30pm *News*; 8.30-9.00pm *News*; 9.00-9.30pm *News*; 9.30-10.00pm *News*; 10.00-10.30pm *News*; 10.30-11.00pm *News*; 11.00-11.30pm *News*; 11.30-12.00pm *News*; 12.00-12.30pm *News*; 12.30-1.00pm *News*; 1.00-1.30pm *News*; 1.30-2.00pm *News*; 2.00-2.30pm *News*; 2.30-3.00pm *News*; 3.00-3.30pm *News*; 3.30-4.00pm *News*; 4.00-4.30pm *News*; 4.30-5.00pm *News*; 5.00-5.30pm *News*; 5.30-6.00pm *News*; 6.00-6.30pm *News*; 6.30-7.00pm *News*; 7.00-7.30pm *News*; 7.30-8.00pm *News*; 8.00-8.30pm *News*; 8.30-9.00pm *News*; 9.00-9.30pm *News*; 9.30-10.00pm *News*; 10.00-10.30pm *News*; 10.30-11.00pm *News*; 11.00-11.30pm *News*; 11.30-12.00pm *News*; 12.00-12.30pm *News*; 12.30-1.00pm *News*; 1.00-1.30pm *News*; 1.30-2.00pm *News*; 2.00-2.30pm *News*; 2.30-3.00pm *News*; 3.00-3.30pm *News*; 3.30-4.00pm *News*; 4.00-4.30pm *News*; 4.30-5.00pm *News*; 5.00-5.30pm *News*; 5.30-6.00pm *News*; 6.00-6.30pm *News*; 6.30-7.00pm *News*; 7.00-7.30pm *News*; 7.30-8.00pm *News*; 8.00-8.30pm *News*; 8.30-9.00pm *News*; 9.00-9.30pm *News*; 9.30-10.00pm *News*; 10.00-10.30pm *News*; 10.30-11.00pm *News*; 11.00-11.30pm *News*; 11.3

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1308.2 (-6.2)
FT-SE 100
1651.8 (-9.1)
Bargains
16798 (17295)
USM (Datastream)
133.63 (+0.33)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8060 (+0.0120)
W German mark
2.9916 (+0.0001)
Trade-weighted
76.0 (+0.3)

GA buys
estate
agencies

General Accident, the Scottish composite insurance company, has increased its estate agency network to 421 branches through the acquisition of Stuart Wyse Ogilvie Estates for £12.8 million.

Stuart Wyse is the largest group of estate agencies in Scotland with 33 branches and net assets of about £1.5 million. GA is issuing 1.5 million new shares to pay for the purchase and the balance will be met with £1.6 million unsecured loan notes and cash.

Dominion rise

Dominion International Group is maintaining its interim dividend at 2.5p a share after reporting pretax profits of £3.17 million for the six months ended September 30, compared with £2.73 million on turnover of £31.3 million (£39.2 million).

Flat brew

Brewmaker, the home wine and beer group, made a pretax profit of £28,000 in the first half of this year, against £67,000 last year. Sales were down from £32 million to £25 million. There is no dividend but the company hopes for a final dividend.

Bulgin ahead

AF Bulgin & Co, the electronic and electrical components manufacturer, made pretax profits of £291,000 for the six months to July 31, against £205,000 in the same period last year. No interim dividend will be paid.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 1942.64 (-4.31)
Tokyo
Nikkei Average 23268.62 (-13.56)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 2194.18 (+14.80)
Amsterdam Gen 213.3 (-1.3)
Sydney AO 1321.4 (+9.7)
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 1359.8 (+10.4)
Brussels
General 3902.5 (-27.3)
Paris CAC 298.6 (same)
Zurich S&K Gen 444.8 (-1.2)
London
FT-A All-Share 831.00 (-25.39)
FT-100 915.00 (-4.75)
FT-Gold Mines 320.0 (-10.9)
FT-Fixed Interest 96.46 (+0.52)
FT-Govt Secs 89.96 (+0.15)
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MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Bases 9110 (+10p)
Blue Circle 6450 (+20p)
Brit. Aerospace 4220 (+10p)
Tate & Lyle 7010 (+34p)
Thorn EMI 5410 (+15p)
Woolworth 3920 (+30p)
Siebe 2250 (+18p)
Parrish 6250 (+25p)
Henderson Admin. 6000 (+25p)
Mersey Docks 3560 (+16p)
FALLS:
Blue Circle 3190 (-10p)
Reuters 4220 (-10p)
Brit. Aerospace 4220 (-10p)
Estates & General 1150 (-30p)
Hanover Drugs 1750 (-10p)
Colson Group 5750 (-12p)
Barton Transport 7250 (-50p)
Samuelson Group 1130 (-85p)
Deagan Holdings 7350 (-20p)
Slyd 2150 (-10p)
Closing prices

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 9%
3-month interbank 9-8 1/2%
3-month eligible bills 8 1/2-8 3/4%
buying rate
US Prime Rate 8 1/2%
Federal Funds 6 1/4-6 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills 5.53-5.61%
30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£: \$1.8060
DM: DM2.9916
SwF: Sfr12.4562
FF: FF10.1813
Yen: ¥133.70
Index: 76.0
ECU: ECU 0.688138
SDR: SDR 0.756987

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$477.80 pm \$478.40
close \$478.25-478.75 (\$264.75-265.25)
New York:
Comex \$478.80-479.30

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan.) pm \$17.90bbl (\$17.90)
Denotes latest trading price

Best Summary 26
Stock Market 26
Wall Street 26
Co News 26
Traded Ops 26
Third Market 26
Comment 27
Tempus 27
Money Mkts 28
Foreign Exch 28
Lift Trains 28
Commodities 28
Share Prices 29

Tokyo licence
goes to C&W

Japan to confirm
deal next week

By David Watts and Colin Narborough

Cable and Wireless's hard-fought battle to enter the Japanese market, which at one time threatened to cause a fierce dispute between Britain and Japan, will end on Monday when Tokyo gives the C&W consortium an operating licence.

Official Japanese resistance to the British telecommunications group's bid provoked outrage in the Commons earlier this year and led to intervention on C&W's behalf by an angry Mrs Thatcher.

The Government saw the case as an acid test of Japan's willingness to open its market to real competition from foreign companies.

In response to yesterday's announcement, a Department of Trade and Industry spokeswoman said: "We are naturally delighted whenever a market is opened up to international competition."

The Telecommunications Council of Japan's Ministry of Post and Telecommunications announced yesterday that it had recommended granting licences to International Digital Communications (IDC), a ¥24 billion

(£100 million) company in which C&W holds a 16.8 per cent share, and the rival International Telecommunications Japan (ITT), which has fought tooth and nail to prevent foreign access.

C&W warmly welcomed the council's decision, but declined with its usual caution to make a formal statement. Mr Paul Woodrow, the company

spokesman in London, said C&W preferred to wait until the Japanese authorities had actually granted the licence.

It has taken a year since IDC's feasibility company was founded to secure the licence. The Japanese government tried for months to persuade the consortia to merge, claiming there would be insufficient business to support a total of three companies (including Kokusai Denshin Denwa, the existing monopoly holder) in the market.

Merger talks were called off last month because the philosophies of the two rivals were incompatible while C&W will lay IDC's own trans-Pacific te-

lecommunications cable, ITT will lease circuits from KDD. C&W says the IDC consortium will be able to undercut both its rivals when services start in 1989 by using a shorter, high-tech cable that will be able to handle up to 11,000 circuits.

Intervention by Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan, and a period of rapidly-increasing trade surpluses made Japan vulnerable to foreign pressure. Internal pressures for a liberalized, more modern and cheaper communications service, with the intervention of such Japanese groups as the Toyota Motor Company, also played an important role.

Yesterday's decision was considered almost inevitable after Mr Noboru Takeshita, Japan's new prime minister, last week put his authority behind the two consortia.

Government officials said after a cabinet meeting that Mr Takeshita, wishing to set the right tone in relations with Japan's main trading partners, had made clear to his new Minister of Post and Telecommunications that the licences should be awarded.

Late demand for Eurotunnel

By Lawrence Lever

The Eurotunnel share issue looked as if it would be slightly undersubscribed last night after all the share applications had been counted.

The offer closed yesterday morning without the stampede associated with privatization issues before the stock market crash.

Nevertheless, the offering of 101 million units, comprising one British and one French share in the Channel tunnel project, appears to have been popular with private investors.

Last-minute demand is believed to have taken the number of applications from private investors comfortably over 100,000, with some sources estimating up to 160,000 share applications from individuals. The average investment among individual investors is estimated at more than £1,000.

A small undersubscription of the £353 million British share offering does not mean there will automatically be a call on the underwriters. If the parallel public offering of Eurotunnel shares in France is oversubscribed, then any unsatisfied French demand can be met from Britain.

The French offer closed at 6pm yesterday. It is structured differently from the British offer in that the French banks take up the shares and distribute them through their branch networks.

The French and British share offerings have been accompanied by a £64 million international share placing.

The £750 million total in equity financing had to be successfully completed before Eurotunnel could draw on a £5 billion syndicated loan

facility, provided by a consortium of 198 international banks, and start building the tunnel.

Privately, Eurotunnel and its advisers, including Mr Alastair Morton, the co-chairman, were said to be delighted with the result of the share offering.

Since the market downturn several rights issues have flopped, with most of the new shares offered being taken up by underwriters.

The precise basis of allocation of the Eurotunnel shares will be announced on Monday. Drilling of the tunnel from Britain will start at Shakespeare cliff in Folkestone on Tuesday.

Share dealings are due to start at 8.30am on Thursday, December 10. If there has been a call on the underwriters, it is likely that the shares will open at a slight discount.

Tax probe
at Boesky
company

By Our City Staff

The Inland Revenue is investigating the tax status of Cambrian & General Securities, the investment trust which was the principal British vehicle for the share dealings of Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced US arbitrageur.

Cambrian's accounts, published yesterday, show that the tax position of the investment trust for the year ending September 1986 has not yet been agreed with the Revenue. Cambrian says that "substantial liabilities to British taxation would arise" if it does not secure Revenue approval as an investment trust.

The trust has made provisions against any loss it might incur as a result of the Revenue investigation and the class actions. These have not been quantified - suggesting that they are not material. Cambrian is proposing a winding-up resolution, as it is required to do under its articles of association, but recommends its rejection as a better price could be obtained once the legal and tax uncertainties are cleared up.

Haslam condemns
coal imports plan

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal, has rejected suggestions that a privatized electricity industry could save £750 million a year by switching to imported coal.

His statement, made last night in Sheffield, came only 24 hours after the Central Electricity Generating Board revealed plans for a coal-handling terminal at Southampton which will be the first in Britain capable of handling cargoes from large ocean-going coal carriers.

Sir Robert said: "We keep on hearing suggestions that the electricity industry could save £750 million a year if it were 'free' to switch to imported coal. It has recently been repeated so often that there is a danger of it becoming an established fact. It is not true."

He said that the CEBG and British Coal have an understanding that British Coal will match the delivered price for foreign coal - but that is based on the present arrangement under which large ocean-going coalers unload at Rotterdam and cargoes are shipped in

smaller vessels to Britain.

He said: "Steam coal in the international market amounts to only 4 per cent of total world steam coal output. The present low international price reflects the gross over-investment in developing new mines dedicated to long haul seaborne trade following 1973's dramatic oil price rise."

British Coal has decided to fight back against the CEBG, which in the run up to privatization is preparing the ground for the political consequences of increased coal imports. The CEBG takes the view that after privatization it will be free to buy on the open market.

However, British Coal feels that it can develop a formula which will link its prices to what it calls the "sustainable" international price rather than the rapidly fluctuating price on the Rotterdam market.

British Coal is itself an eventual candidate for privatization.

Government doubles limit on money market borrowing

Boost for building societies

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

The Government yesterday doubled the amount building societies are allowed to borrow from wholesale money markets, in a surprise move that went beyond what the societies had sought. The increase will boost the societies' ability to lead on mortgages and give them greater flexibility in funding.

The societies were jubilant when Mr Peter Lilley, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, announced that they would be able to borrow up to 40 per cent of their liabilities from wholesale markets, instead of the present 20 per cent, from the start of next year. The Building Societies Act allows for such an increase, but the industry had been pressing for an increase to only 30 per cent.

Mr Lilley said: "Setting the figure at 40 per cent now should give societies a more certain basis for their long-term

planning." He said the present limit hindered societies from competing for mortgage business against institutions such as banks, which have no borrowing restriction.

At present, the societies borrow an average of 12 per cent of their money from the wholesale market, currently worth £17.2 billion, although some have borrowed up to 17 per cent of their liabilities from this source. In theory, if they borrowed the full 40 per cent they could take more than £50 billion from wholesale sources.

Mr Mark Beale, director general of the Building Societies Association, said: "It shows the Government is willing to adapt the legislation as circumstances require. The limit is now so high that no society should have to worry about it for at least four years."

The societies pressed for an increase because of the falling inflow of retail

deposits over the last few years as competition from banks and privatization issues siphoned off the public's savings. But the need for more wholesale borrowing has become less pressing recently because more money has flowed into societies since the stock market crash.

The new limit also broadens the societies' funding options. Borrowing wholesale money is currently about half a percentage point cheaper than borrowing retail funds. The big clearing banks typically borrow more than half their money from the cheap wholesale markets.

The 40 per cent limit will not apply to every society, however. As now, the Building Societies Commission, which regulates the industry, will set an upper limit for each society depending on its strength and management ability.



Before the music died: five years ago Debbie Moore brought glamour to the Exchange

Debbie Moore departs
with Pineapple chunk

By Our City Staff

Miss Debbie Moore, the former model and queen of the aerobics fitness craze, is dancing - or perhaps limping - away from the Pineapple Group which she brought to the stock market in 1982 in a fanfare of publicity.

For the past three years the Pineapple dance studios have lost hundreds of thousands of pounds as the fitness craze fizzled out. Miss Moore is now buying the three London dance studios from Pineapple Group, and resigning her positions as chairman and a director.

The company itself is in a healthy position, however, having diversified away from being purely a dance studio company. Led by Mr Peter Bain, a former director of the Hawley industrial group, it has become a marketing services company operating in areas such as sales promotions, exhibitions and consumer goods.

The company issued a state-

ment yesterday, saying: "It has become increasingly clear that the original Pineapple business does not sit comfortably within the enlarged group."

It added that the business had made losses for the last three years and its disposal would allow the group "to be seen more clearly, both financially and operationally."

All this is a far cry from the fitness-crazy days of November 1982 when Miss Moore launched Pineapple Dance Studios on the Unlisted Securities Market, scandalizing stockbrokers by appearing on the trading floor of the Exchange in a leotard on the first day of dealings.

The shares which were placed with City institutions at 52p closed on the first day at 96p. Fifteen months later Miss Moore was voted Business Woman of the Year.

The company, which was founded by Miss Moore and Mr Norris Masters, then her

husband, was in the forefront of the "glamour stocks" that were attracted to going public by using the USM.

However, its success was short-lived. The share price and profits fell with boardroom rows and the downturn in the aerobics boom. Mr Masters resigned, and Mr Bain came into the group in 1985.

He orchestrated the conversion of the company into a marketing services group which turned in profits of £1.25 million in its last financial year. The company is now valued on the stock market at about £12 million and Miss Moore owns 7 per cent of the shares.

"It is a totally amicable parting of the ways," Mr Bain said. Touche Ross, the accountant, is still working on the price Miss Moore will pay for the London studios and the Pineapple fashion business, which made losses of £124,000 last year.

Siebe advance confounds critics

By Colin Campbell

Siebe, the multi-national controls, garage equipment and safety products group, yesterday confounded its critics and reported a 31.8 per cent advance in net interim earnings a share after a strong advance in half-time profits.

Analysts had feared an earnings dilution in the wake of recent rights issues by the group. In the event, Siebe turned out net interim earnings of 19.9p a share, compared with 15.1p a share in the first half of the previous

financial year, despite a doubled share base.

Siebe, reflecting recent acquisitions and organic growth, achieved a turnover of £483.8 million in the six months ended September, compared with £229.2 million, and a pretax profit of £50 million against £19.7 million.

The interim dividend rises from 2.345p to 2.7p a share, and on the stock market the shares rose by 14p to 283p.

Mr Barrie Stephens, the chief executive officer, said

Siebe was not ashamed of its presence in North America, nor of the group's recent American acquisitions.

Siebe had concluded significant contracts with China, won a £2 million Sizewell B order, and was developing its various interests on a broad front, he added.

The second half year has started with further good progress throughout the company, and the board looks forward to this trend continuing.

Tempus, page 27

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Foreign & Colonial
Investment trusts

Midland unveils business exchanges with Hongkong

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank yesterday unveiled details of a series of business exchanges with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. The move follows the agreement under which the Far Eastern bank will take a 14.9 per cent stake in Midland.

The transfer of responsibility for businesses in Europe, Asia and Canada — the first stage in rationalizing the bank's operations worldwide — were outlined in a circular to Midland shareholders. Further details may be announced before the extraordinary shareholders' meeting on December 21 to vote on the deal.

Midland will take over the operation and servicing — not

the assets — of all Hongkong's branches and offices in Britain and eight other European countries, including its trade finance business between Europe and Asia.

It will take over Hongkong's clearing business in London and its Jersey-based private banking operation and buy the European subsidiaries of Concord, Hongkong's asset finance group.

Hongkong will run Midland's operations in Bangkok, Singapore and Taipei and will buy Midland's Toronto-based subsidiary, which last year had profits of Can\$3 million (£1.5 million). This will be merged with Hongkong Bank of Can-

ada, the tenth largest in the country.

Midland will retain its offices in leading financial centres and keep worldwide control of Thomas Cook, the travellers' cheque company.

Further co-operation is still being explored in areas such as aerospace, ship-finance, insurance broking, property lending, travellers' cheques and private banking.

No agreement has yet been worked out on investment banking. Some co-operation, however, between Greenwell Mountain, Midland's securities and merchant banking arm, and James Capel, owned by

Hongkong, is planned.

Midland will ask shareholders to grant management powers to develop the links. The agreement with Hongkong, which will inject £382 million of new capital into Midland, is regarded as the first step towards a full merger.

Sir Kit McMahon, Midland's chairman, said the agreement had three main objectives. Because of the complementary geographical spread of the banks, there were strategic and cost advantages in rationalizing overseas operations; it gave Midland much-needed extra capital; and it ended the unremitting takeover speculation surrounding Midland.

News Corp in Fairfax deal

From Richard Battley, Sydney

The News Corporation Ltd is expected to become the dominant shareholder in the national news agency, Australian Association Press, and the country's leading newspaper supplier, Australian Newsprint Mills Ltd.

The deal, worth an estimated Aus\$275 million (£108 million), was apparently negotiated by Mr Warwick Fairfax, head of John Fairfax Ltd, and Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of The News Corporation.

Mr Fairfax is believed to be selling most of a 43 per cent stake in ANM and a 40 per cent holding in two AAP companies. These assets are owned by John Fairfax, the Sydney media group.

Mr Fairfax's private company, Tryart Proprietary Ltd, is about to buy out majority shareholders in John Fairfax for Aus\$2.5 billion.

In a statement to the stock exchange yesterday, he said Tryart had acceptances for 98.2 per cent of John Fairfax's shares from more than 75 per cent of shareholders. This enables it to acquire compulsorily the remainder, once the takeover offer expires on December 8, and Mr Fairfax told the exchange it intended to do this.

Media analysts believe Mr Fairfax is anxious to reduce Tryart's debt to find the buy-back, initiated to keep the Sydney Morning Herald, the 156-year-old morning broadsheet, in Fairfax hands.

After disposing of other big assets, principally the Australian Financial Review, the only daily financial newspaper, it was estimated that Mr Fairfax owed Aus\$700 million. He had intended to raise Aus\$275 million by relisting David Syme & Company, a John Fairfax subsidiary, whose chief asset is The Age, Melbourne's morning broadsheet and the country's most profitable newspaper.

The prospect, however, of not being able to protect The Age from a market raid prompted him to cancel this move.

Mr Robert Holmes à Court, the beleaguered Perth businessman, bought the Australian Financial Review, The Times on Sunday, the Macquarie Broadcasting Network and other assets for Aus\$475 million. Mr Holmes à Court holds 7.1 per cent in ANM and some analysts believe he may sell this stake to The News Corporation.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

C&W's giant step on the global highway

Although the formal announcement will not come before Monday, it is all but certain that the consortium of which Cable and Wireless is a leading member will be granted a licence to operate an international telecommunications business in Japan. The new Prime Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, and a new Minister for Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Masaaki Nakayama, have opted for the expected compromise of granting licences to the rival consortia which now face the prospect of competing with the existing monopoly purveyor of international telecommunications services, KDD.

However tough the going may be — and Japanese attitudes do not all change overnight — the Tokyo decision is a tribute to C&W's diplomacy, perseverance and technical excellence. The cable it will lay across the Pacific will form a vital part of the imaginative global digital highway, which will underline the company's place in communications history.

The outcome is a personal triumph for Sir Eric Sharp, who would be the first to acknowledge, however, the powerful political support C&W has received from Mrs Thatcher and the key role of C. Itoh, C&W's main Japanese partner.

Though on a different scale, Plessey's decision to acquire Ferranti's semiconductor business for £30 million is also significant. On two counts. At a stroke, it almost doubles the turnover of Plessey Semiconductors and makes PS the market leader in Europe, though still only ninth in the world; and it demonstrates the new mood at Plessey — decisive and active in driving the group, by acquisition as well as organic growth, down clearly identified paths.

Ferranti's sales of Application Specific Integrated Circuits last year were £66.2 million (at little profit). Plessey has estimated that the ASIC sector of the world's integrated circuit market is about 35 per cent of a total market worth \$17 billion. It is expected by 1990 to rise to 50 per cent of a \$32 billion market.

The Ferranti deal is in line with Plessey thinking whereas taking over a "commodity" chip business like Immos (from Thorn) — a recently rumoured development that has made Plessey followers anxious — is not. The risk is that the American and Japanese giants — Motorola, LSI Logic, NEC, Fujitsu — will turn "custom made" chips into a low margin, fiercely competitive commodity-type market. Size is important, as Ferranti has discovered to its cost: from a position of technical leadership in the gate arrays market in the 1970s, it has now been forced out altogether.

Plessey has chosen to get on rather than get out, conscious of the fact that it must capture much more business in Europe and the United States through a determined development of electronic components, systems and defence. As Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey, said on Thursday: "The whole purpose of this exercise is to develop growth in Europe and the US."

Tunnel below par

High hopes held out for the final and most important stage of the Eurotunnel flotation were torpedoed by the crash of '87 and the heavy losses suffered by luckless underwriters of the mammoth BP issue. Yesterday's news that the issue was undersubscribed should be seen in that context. It was clear from the near disaster of Equity 2 last year that long-term professional investors were by no means convinced that the risk and rewards of backing the tunnel were sufficiently evenly balanced. Their reluctance to take part in what was a tiny share sale has been misinterpreted as short-termism, cowardice or worse. In fact, it was nothing of the kind. Those who declined to take part even after arm-twisting sessions round at the Bank of England were not expressing a view about backing long-term and risky investments. Theirs was a far more pertinent objection — the numbers simply did not stack up.

Alastair Morton and the new management team he brought in earlier in the year did a great deal to rescue a dire situation. Nevertheless, Mr Morton was unable to dispel a feeling among sophisticated institutions that the more attractive projections offered to them during the run-up to the crucial share sale were a little too good to be true. Income forecasts have been boosted by as much as 40 per cent compared with those offered a year ago. And even though Eurotunnel trimmed its expectations of cross-Channel market volume in the year 2003 by 9 per cent, it reckoned that its own share would be some 12 per cent higher.

This consistent leveraging up of the crucial passenger and freight forecasts at each stage of the project has raised eyebrows in more than a few quarters. Even then, the projected returns still leave an insufficient premium over alternative investments to be entirely conclusive.

At the end of the day, backing Eurotunnel with equity investment required an act of faith. That act may well prove to be handsomely rewarded. But it was not a comfortable or defensible decision for those entrusted with stewardship of other people's savings.

Fuel group cuts loss to £1.85m

By Our City Staff

Burnett & Hallamshire, the troubled coal-mining and property group, made reduced pretax losses of £1.85 million in the half year to the end of September, against £3.1 million previously.

The post-interest loss on continuing businesses was £583,000 against £243,000 and on discontinued businesses £737,000 (£1.09 million).

First-half investment in new plant and equipment should bring positive benefits in the second half through improvements in efficiency, the company said. Interest payable on continuing businesses remained heavy, at £2.8 million against £2.9 million in the previous first half.

The recently announced sale of Rexco, the loss-making smokeless fuel subsidiary, for £2 million, and other asset realizations will allow B&H to pay its bankers all rolled-up interest by the end of the present financial year.

Nestor coming to market

By Alison Eadie



Michael Rogers: the Nestor head who led last year's buyout

Nestor-BNA, the healthcare services company, is coming to the stock market via a placing by Hambros Bank of nearly 7 million shares at 75p.

Nestor was owned by Eagle Star until last April, when a management team, headed by Mr Michael Rogers, the managing director, bought it. It owns the largest nursing agency in Britain, manages independent nursing homes and hospitals and runs a deputizing service for doctors.

The company has 30,000 qualified nurses on its books and a further 10,000 auxiliaries and carers. About 40 per cent of its nurses work in the National Health Service but, contrary to popular belief, they earn less than permanent staff, being paid the same hourly wage but without holiday or other benefits. Nestor's nurses receive about £4 of the average £5 an hour the NHS pays the company.

Nestor, which delayed its float plans by a day to allow itself time to read the White Paper Promoting Better Health, welcomed the proposals in the paper.

SAS profits soar to record £164.5m

By Colin Narborough

As the Office of Fair Trading scrutinizes its approach to the troubled British Caledonian group, Scandinavian Airlines System, the semi-state airline owned by Sweden, Norway and Denmark, yesterday reported record profits.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of the OFT, under pressure to make his assessment of a possible partial bid by SAS before B-Cal has to decide on British Airways' formal £153 million offer, is

likely to report his conclusions to the Department of Trade and Industry next week.

The OFT launched its investigation after SAS said it was interested in a possible stake in B-Cal, probably in the region of 40 per cent, plus a substantial cash injection.

The Scandinavians have been tight-lipped about the B-Cal question since their statement this week after talks in London between Mr Jan Carlzon, the SAS president, British regulatory authorities

and potential underwriters.

The SAS group, comprising the airline, hotels and services, raised pretax profits in the year to end-September by 10 per cent to a record 1.7 billion Swedish kronor (£164.5 million).

The Norwegians and Danes each have 30 and Sweden 30 of half the airline, with the balance held by private investors. The shares are quoted on the three Scandinavian stock exchanges. The structure has

not changed since SAS was formed in 1946, and there has been little debate about privatizing the state holdings.

Turnover rose 10 per cent to Kr23.9 billion, despite a freeze on air travel prices forced on SAS by the Nordic governments. The airline arm, SAS's core business, boosted its profits to Kr1.5 billion from Kr1.3 billion, before extraordinary items, on a turnover of Kr17.5 billion after the previous year's Kr16.5 billion.

TEMPUS

Siebe stands to win new friends with share holding operation

If Siebe, with its reputation for issuing paper the way some people throw confetti, really is serious about holding its issued share base for a while — thereby indicating there are no more rights issues in the wings — it has a chance of being better loved.

The interim results statement for the six months to end-September contains several encouraging features, notably that there has been no earnings dilution, despite earlier fears, and the pretax profits increase from £19.7 million to £50 million is very satisfactory.

There were first-time contributions from Robertshaw Controls, Ranco Incorporated and WH Salisbury, which brought in £26.9 million; the CompAir companies contributed £9.13 million, or a 19.9 per cent increase; and the rest of the group advanced by 16.3 per cent.

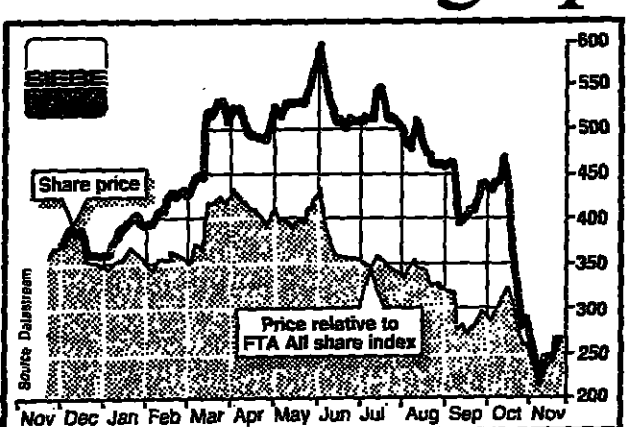
Siebe has sold its footwear companies and can therefore concentrate on the core businesses it knows best. And, the acquisition of Barber-Colman last month, bringing the group a number of controls-related skills, all helps point to a strong year-end.

In present stock market conditions, however, high exposure to the American economy does not go down well. The geographical sales pie chart is dominated by North America, and this slice will grow with the latest acquisition.

Longer term, as other areas expand and markets calm, North America will not be such a worry. Meanwhile, Siebe makes no excuses for its presence in America, pointing out that it should be recession-protected and that there are large markets to be tapped.

Gearing, which 12 months ago stood at 128 per cent, and at the March year-end at 118 per cent, is now looking a more healthy 53 per cent. The interest burden has thus fallen from £30 million to £14 million.

Digestion of acquisitions and concentration on organic growth, rather than ac-



quisition, is likely to be Siebe's immediate priority, but positive year-on-year growth looks assured, with a follow-through rise in net earnings a share.

Pretax profits of £110 million against £62.1 million should be within easy reach, making the shares at 283p, up 14p yesterday, look cheap on a seven times rating, although they will undoubtedly run into state bulls on the way up.

Nestor-BNA

The reverberations from Black Monday are beginning to recede and companies are again seeking stock market listings.

Nestor-BNA had to trim its pre-crash expectations, raising only £4 million of new money instead of the £6 million it originally wanted. But its placing was still healthily oversubscribed on a capitalization of £26.4 million against a management buy-out price in April last year of £15.3 million. The 16 institutions involved in the buy-out must be pleased.

The reasons for obtaining a listing remain unchanged by the market turbulence. Nestor wants to expand by acquisition and some of the companies in its sights prefer to be paid in paper not cash to avoid capital gains tax liabilities. The proceeds of the issue will reduce high borrowings taken out to finance the buy-out, but only £4 million of the £6 million borrowings will now be eliminated.

Nestor's operating profits have risen steadily in the past three years, although pretax profits have been dampened by heavy interest charges. Excluding interest on the loans to be repaid, pretax profits are forecast to reach £3 million this year.

The prospective p/e ratio at 13.5 is not cheap, but is much more modest than it would have been a few weeks ago and is still modest by comparison with other quoted employment agencies.

Although Nestor is only in healthcare at the moment, it is prepared to consider non-healthcare acquisitions.

The three existing divisions are also all expected to grow. BNA, the agency nursing division and by far the biggest profits earner, plans to extend its geographical coverage in a fragmented market. It presently has about 10 per cent of the National Health Service agency market and somewhat more of the private market.

The prospective yield is 3.37 per cent.

Dominion Int

Dominion International Group, which as a perk in the 1970s and before it sold its funeral interests, used to offer shareholders discounts on burials, is assuming a new role in life.

It is selling off the old and non-performing interests and making a move into the wide world of financial services.

The move is already hav-

ing an impact on profit figures, and there is more to come.

For the six months ended September 20 pretax profit is up from £2.73 million to £3.17 million with financial services making all the running.

There was a first time contribution from its United States leasing business, Transnational, and although there was a poor showing from Southwest Resources, its 59 per cent-owned subsidiary, that company's interest in the States Petroleum group did manage to increase its profits from £10,000 to £460,000.

Dominion has so far realized £20 million from property sales in Britain, and talks are now in progress to sell the holding in Southwest.

If successfully concluded, that could mean an impact of between £20 million and £24 million to Dominion as cash is brought in and borrowings go out.

A fresh boardroom team steps into place on January 1, and though the redirection of the group will take time, Dominion has at least identified the areas into which it wants to expand — with the specialist, niche areas very much in mind.

The objective is to get into core businesses with stronger cash flow and earnings growth.

Yesterday's market reaction to results was to see the shares start to pick up from the dead. In the recent overall stakeout in the stock market they fell from 134p to 75p. Yesterday they rose 3p to 81p.

If profits before tax move into the £8.5 million region this financial year, it would not show much change from the previous year.

But shareholders should be looking for a resumed profits record during the following year.

If evidence continues to mount that financial services are making Dominion tick, the shares could have seen their worst.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

OVER FIFTEN

IRON FINANCIAL ENTERPRISE

BANKS

Retail Prices Index
(Oct '86 to Oct '87)[illegible]

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

THIS WEEK

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The home-owners' way to beat winter

The Association of British Insurers' handy booklet, *Watch out for Winter*, is too late for victims of last month's gales and flooding, but gives home-owners useful advice on how to prevent or minimize further storm damage, burst pipes and other problems that could arise during the winter.

Besides giving advice on precautions to take, the leaflet gives information on household insurance and how to claim if necessary. For a copy of *Watch out for Winter*, send a stamped addressed envelope to Department W, Association of British Insurers, Alderman House, Queen Street, London EC4N 1TT.

More mortgage rates are cut

More lenders have announced mortgage rate cuts this week, with several undercutting the competitive 10.1 per cent rate of the Abbey National.

The United Bank of Kuwait is cutting its rate to 10 per cent on December 1. The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society is reducing its rate to 10 per cent from January 4, and the Northern Mortgage Corporation, the leading arm of the FS Group, is reducing its rate to 9.95 per cent — this lower rate will apply to existing borrowers with loans of up to 85 per cent of valuation from January 1.

Gilt-edged safety

"You can run but you can't hide" is how the world-wide stock market crash of 1987 will be remembered. PETER GARTLAND assesses where investors should put their money now



Newsome: "dangers in US"

The October crash was a chastening experience for investors — big and small — who were forced to watch impotently as 20 per cent, 30 per cent and even more was wiped off the value of their shares and unit trusts.

The losses took their toll of all markets, including both the giants such as Wall Street and the minnows of Mexico and Belgium.

Could investors have taken avoiding action? As always the simple answer is "yes", but the great problem with rising markets is that everyone forgets the law of gravity. Instead, people are driven by greed into believing that what goes up must continue going up.

Minor detour on way to long-term gains

Readers who acted on Family Money's comment reproduced below, which appeared just 16 days before Black Monday, were the lucky ones. I wrote on October 3: "With unit trust money under management nudging a record £50 billion, mainly from small investors, it is tempting to ask whether the bear market can be far behind."

For most people the suddenness and severity of the crash made it impossible to get out of the way in time.

The comforting thought for investors who have been in the market over a period of years is that they can view Black Monday as a minor detour on the road to big long-term profits. The clear message for those investors is that they should stick with their equity holdings and not become distressed sellers.

The real sufferers are those investors who have gone heavily into equities during the past 12 months. The October crash savagely wiped out 30 per cent worth of gains that the UK market had notched up during 1987 and the climb back is going to be a long and painful one.

Chris Finch, of Sun Life Investment Management, says that any economic damage caused by the market crash

may be limited but the rehabilitation of equities is quite another matter. "Confidence remains very fragile," says Mr Finch.

The "what to do" conundrum is obviously far worse for recent equity investors. Should they swallow hard, sell, and accept swinging losses? Or should they convince themselves that the worst is over and that things can only get better, albeit slowly?

Their decision must be made according to how they view the prospects of a global recession. A recession is not inevitable but, with the US budget deficit package being greeted with reactions including indifference and concern, hard times ahead cannot be ruled out.

The most difficult decisions of all face those investors who have new money to commit now. The safe haven of cash looks increasingly unattractive as the current round of building society mortgage rate cuts is translated into lower interest rates for savers.

At the same time equity investment must be highly selective if it is not to land investors in an even bigger muddle. On that score the decision of Lloyds Bank to choose today to launch a North American Smaller Companies and Recovery Unit Trust looks like a prime candidate for the Wacky Timing of the Year award.

Anthony Newsome, a director of Baring International Investment Management, does not see the problems in the United States being resolved "without a great deal of pain" and points to the dangers of US protectionism leading to world political stability. "How much would you pay for the Deutschmark if the Americans move out of Germany?" he asks rhetorically.

But if American stocks are friendless and the prices of

... and management groups remains to be seen. With unit trust money under management nudging a record £50 billion, mainly from small investors, it is tempting to ask whether the bear market can be far behind.

Prophetic words: from a Family Money article on October 3

Japanese shares look too risky by half, the UK market stands out as having a lot to commend it.

Jonathan Tate, chief investment manager of Confederation Life Insurance, says unambiguously: "The picture within the UK is fundamentally sound and the general economic prospects are good."

Baring is also positive on the UK market. The emphasis of its new UK growth unit trust will be on solid higher capitalization companies where quality of management and continuity of profits growth look promising.

Mr Newsome maintains that investors' expectations have gone too high. "The name of the game is preservation of capital rather than going for the top dollar," he believes.

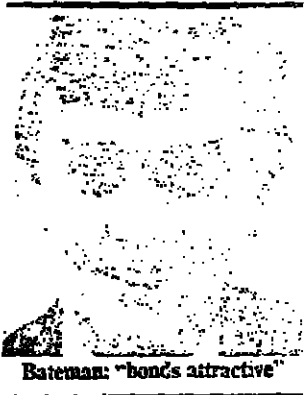
A different direction is being taken by Fidelity Investment Services with its new international bond fund and it could have hit the nail on the head. Bonds are fixed interest

Pretty much ignored by UK investors

securities that provide a method for governments, local authorities and companies to borrow money. In the UK, government bonds are more often known as gilts.

International bonds have been pretty much ignored by UK investors but the attractions of regular interest payments coupled with prospects for capital appreciation at a time of falling interest rates plus the possibility of currency gains make them an interesting proposition in current market conditions.

Fidelity's managing director Barry Bateman concludes that the possibility of a slowdown



Bateman: "bonds attractive"

in world growth, falling interest rates and low global inflation make bonds an increasingly attractive investment proposition. He is probably right, but the balancing act required to get the best out of interest rates, capital growth and currency relationships demand very special skills, which have yet to be tested at Fidelity.

Two final thoughts for readers who remain hungry for investment opportunities. Whitechurch Securities (01-977-5854 or, in Bristol, 0272 687277) is offering a new booklet, *Achieving 10 per cent net*. Ways discussed include annuities, unit trusts and inheritance tax schemes.

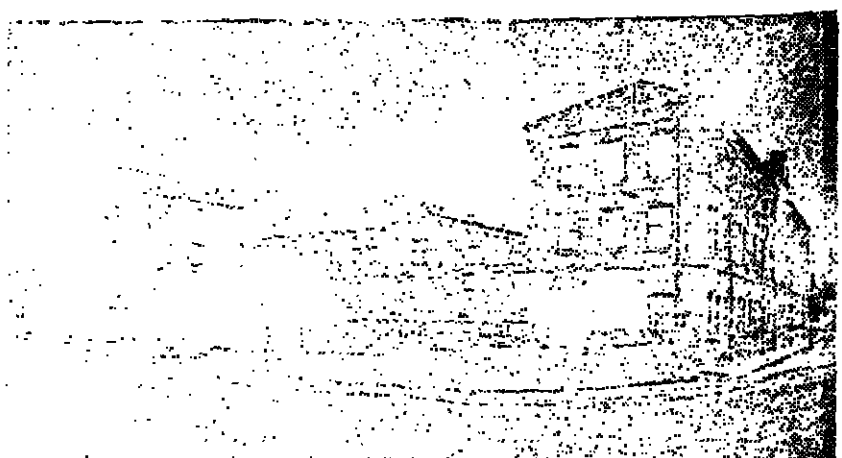
The ideas owe as much to Whitechurch's marketing ambitions as to investment insight, but the £1.95 booklet should spark off some thoughts that can be tailored to your own needs.

Last of all, some investment managers in the City are whispering that on a five-year view the smaller markets of the Far East — Hong Kong, Singapore, Korea, Taiwan — offer the most exciting prospects of all.

Fine, so long as investors have learned the lessons of the crash of '87 — the more exciting the prospects, the bigger the eventual fall.

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*Source: Money Management, November 1987, p. 240

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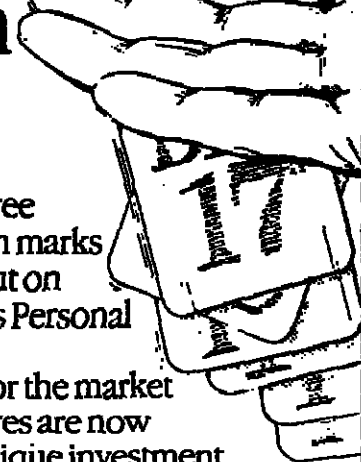
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DEC 18TH



The heirs who wait

An English woman has been waiting for more than a year to get legal title to the villa she "inherited" in Spain. The owner made a will in England, but it has not yet been accepted as valid by the Spanish courts.

The matter has been further delayed because the owner of the villa died in Austria and his death certificate had to be ratified by the Spanish consulate there.

Meanwhile, the villa is lying empty. The woman can neither sell it nor get rental income from it, and her legal expenses are mounting.

This kind of problem is becoming increasingly common as more people are buying property abroad, especially older people hoping to spend their retirement years in a more equable climate.

All too often they do not bother to get legal advice beforehand, wrongly assuming that a will that is made in Britain is automatically valid throughout the world. Spain and Portugal are popular locations, but similar problems can arise in any foreign country where you have property, investments or bank accounts.

Rodrigo Blanco, a London-based solicitor specializing in Spanish property, said: "You would not expect the courts in Britain to accept, without question documents drawn up in other countries. In Spain at least the will is usually accepted as valid eventually but it can take months or even years for the legal formalities to be completed."

Yet most of the delays and extra expenses could be avoided if buyers took the precaution of registering a will in the country where they are buying property. In most countries this is not particularly difficult or expensive.

In Spain, for example, a will can be made and registered for about £150. You do not even have to go to Spain.

Mr Blanco explains: "A Spanish will can be drawn up in Britain or Spain provided it is registered with the authorities in Madrid. If the person dies his estate can then very quickly go to his heirs, after taxes have been paid."

If the property owner dies without registering a will in that country, the "heirs" have

to employ an English or Scottish solicitor to get any will made in Britain confirmed by a notary public as a valid document. In most cases the solicitor will also have to get court confirmation of this.

The situation is even more complicated if there is no will at all. Then the English or Scottish courts have to decide who should inherit the property and provide a certificate to that effect.

After that the certificate or document has to go to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to confirm that the signature is genuine and the document is sealed.

Even that is not the end of the matter. It then has to go to a solicitor in the country

"I BEAR NO ILL WILL BUT EL WILL IS NOT ALL WELL..."



concerned and finally to that country's courts. Meanwhile, legal and court fees mount up.

An Edinburgh woman has waited more than two years to get title to a house in Spain. The house was owned by her stepmother who had registered a will in Spain leaving it to her husband. But he died shortly afterwards, leaving neither a Scottish nor a Spanish will. Under Scottish law his daughter should inherit the property, but without any written will the Spanish courts have not yet agreed she is the legal heir.

The house is being let as holiday accommodation by a letting agent, but the daughter is not receiving regular rent. She is also worried that the property is being allowed to deteriorate, though there is little she can do about it because she does not yet have legal title. She is understandably reluctant to spend money on repairs in case she loses the case.

"I'm confident this case will

soon be satisfactorily resolved, but it will have taken a lot of time and effort," said Wilma Wood, a partner in the Scottish law firm, Ross Harper and Murphy.

In another Scottish case an elderly couple bought a property in Portugal for their retirement. When the wife died her husband did not want to continue living there and decided to give the house to his married daughter so that she could use it for holidays with her children. But the house had been in joint names, so legally he could give his daughter only his half-share of the house. He has not yet inherited his wife's half-share because she did not have a will registered in Portugal.

"He's now involved in protracted legal proceedings, which is rather sad because all he wanted to do was forget about the place. At the moment half the house now belongs to his daughter and the other half to no-one," said Ms Wood.

If you are registering a will abroad it is usually necessary to employ a solicitor in that country, but it is sensible also to use a solicitor in Britain. Make sure at least that your solicitor here gets a copy.

Also make sure that your foreign-registered will is not substantially different from any wills and testaments you have made in Britain. Enormous problems can result if competing heirs are relying on different wills to stake a claim on the property.

Inheritance taxes may also be due and these vary from country to country. In Spain the tax can be at least 13 per cent of the estate's value, depending on the heir's relationship to the deceased. More tax would be levied, for example, on an estate inherited from an uncle than from a father. Get advice on the tax laws of the country concerned before buying.

The same precautions should be taken if you are buying shares or have other assets abroad, not including those managed in the UK. These form part of your estate and so should be included in any overseas will you make.

Eveline Hunter

RICHARD NEWELL continues his series on the financial ages of man

Moving house is probably the last thing you want to be doing at a time when your finances are being stretched by the arrival of children. That may account for the popularity of home improvement schemes in this country.

Many people would rather add an extra room or an extension to the back of their present house than suffer the stresses and strains of selling and looking for a bigger one.

Sensible home improvements are a good way of adding lasting value to your home. If you need cash for the job, tell your bank or building society manager you would like a further advance on your mortgage or alternatively a home improvement loan.

Assuming your income has grown since you took out the mortgage, you should experience no resistance. The society will want to make a fresh valuation of the house and to be sure that what you intend to do is not going to ruin it. However, you should not attempt to over-improve a modest terrace house or suburban semi because its selling price will remain in the range for the area. Expensive additions will not recoup their cost when you come to sell.

The bank or building society manager will probably have a

Both parents should have life cover

better idea of the likely cost of your improvements. The Bradford & Bingley Building Society offers the warning: "Such jobs tend to take twice as long as the builder estimates and never come in at the price quoted. There are always small additions to a job which bump the price up surprisingly." Having dealt with many similar cases, the manager may even be able to put you in touch with a reliable builders' business.

If the building work is to make room for an addition to the family, you should think of buying some life insurance. The Bradford & Bingley Building Society says: "Knowing that your mortgage will be repaid and that your company pension scheme will pay out one or two times your salary if you die in service is not enough."

Better to build an extra room

Both parents should have cover, but many families just take out a policy on Dad if he is the breadwinner. And you do not have to buy an expensive investment-linked life policy. Term assurances will give you as much cover as you need very cheaply. A man in his late twenties could get £50,000 of cover for less than the cost of a packet of cigarettes a week.

The premiums for non-smokers and for women are cheaper still.

There are various types of term assurance to suit different circumstances. Convertible term is probably the most popular because it offers you the chance to change the policy to an endowment at a later stage without the need for a medical.

Alternatively, a family income benefit policy will pay out a regular income to your beneficiaries, rather than a lump sum. This may be more practical if, for example, the bereaved wife has to go out to work and employ a child minder or other home help.

Life assurance schemes with investment links are many and varied. If you decide to take out such a policy, your main concern should be to check that the company whose policy you are buying can prove a consistently good return over a number of years. Life assurance is a long-term thing, and although past performance is no guarantee of the future, it gives you a fair idea of who is reliable.

Do not be persuaded simply because a broker or company salesman tells you a particular company has good performance. Make your own investigations before committing yourself. Professional publications such as *Money Management* and *Planned Savings* contain all the information you need to assess one company's investment performance against the rest of the market. This goes for unit trust investments as well.

Bonus for the benefit people

If you are receiving certain benefits in the week beginning Monday, December 7, you should be in for a £10 Christmas bonus from the DHSS. This is an additional tax-free bonus that is not included in any means test to which you might be subjected.

To qualify for the bonus you must be receiving one of the benefits listed in the table, during the week noted above. You must also be present or ordinarily resident in one of the "qualifying countries". These include the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, Gibraltar, the Isle of Man and any European Community country.

Do note that a war disablement pensioner who is not receiving any of the benefits noted in the table will still qualify for the bonus, provided he or she is retired and is over pension age.

Note also that if you are a married couple and both of



you meet the qualifying conditions, you will both be entitled to the bonus. Similarly, if you are a married couple and one of you does not meet the qualifying conditions, the partner who does qualify will receive an extra £10 on behalf of the non-qualifying partner. The £10 payment should be included on the page covering your normal payment for the week beginning December 7.

If you have not received the bonus by the end of December and you think you are entitled, contact the DHSS. Leaflet NI 229 gives all the details you need.

Charles Jackson

Qualifying benefits: Retirement Pension, Invalidity Pension, Supplementary Pension, Attendance Allowance, Invalid Care Allowance, Widow's Pension, Widowed Mother's Allowance, War Widow's Pension, Widow's Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance (Industrial Injuries and War Disablement Pension), Unemployment Supplement or Industrial Death Benefit (Industrial Injuries Scheme) or Unemployment Allowance (War Disablement Pension)

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FAMILY MONEY/3

Customer's double trouble

CHEQUES

The Abbey National's recent announcement of its plans to develop Cheque-Save into a full current account banking service for all was met with mixed feelings by one Family Money reader, Alan Pardoe (for the record, no relation to the writer).

Mr Pardoe said that when he opened his Cheque-Save he "expected it to be run on the same basis as a bank". However, the problems he has experienced have left him feeling less than happy.

In July he wrote a cheque for £38.73, but when he subsequently checked his records the debit was entered as £58.73. He wrote to John Bayliss, general manager, marketing, of the Abbey National at the beginning of August explaining what had happened, and asking him to arrange examination of the cheque for any possible alteration.

Having heard nothing several weeks later, he sent another letter, which again received no response.

With this query still unanswered, Mr Pardoe contacted a new problem. On October 5 he advised the manager of his local branch in Great Malvern, Worcestershire, that he would like £500 to be transferred from his seven-day notice account to his Cheque-Save account. He was careful to get the timing right because he needed the money to pay stamp duty on a house purchase.

When he issued a cheque dated October 12 in favour of his solicitor, he naturally assumed that the funds had been transferred. Not so. On October 17 he received a letter from the solicitor saying the cheque had been returned. What was even more puzzling was that his pass book had been updated in the meantime, showing that the transfer had been effected.

On contacting the Abbey



Target of complaint: Letters went to Abbey's head office. Left: John Bayliss, who has no record of receiving them

National in Great Malvern he was told that the blame lay with the society's head office, which had rejected the cheque because it was unaware of the transfer. However, he was assured that the cheque would be honoured when it was re-presented.

As it happened, unlike the earlier incident where he was £20 worse off, Mr Pardoe suffered no financial loss as a result of the returned cheque. What he did lose, however, was his confidence in the Abbey National. "It seems to me that since the Abbey cannot run their Cheque-Save account with efficiency, they certainly should not be trying to run a bank-style current account," he says.

Family Money contacted the society this week, and both problems have now been

ironed out, although Mr Bayliss has no record of receiving either letter of complaint.

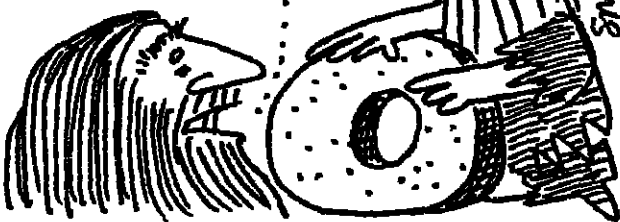
The cheque to the solicitor was not paid immediately because the branch had not transferred the money on time. It was nothing to do with head office, simply human error at the branch, which was caught out by the solicitor who specially presented the cheque.

Similarly, a mistake had been made over the amount of Mr Pardoe's cheque. The words definitely stated "thirty eight" pounds. Unfortunately, the figures were less clear.

The Co-operative bank, which handles the relevant process for the Abbey National, had misread the figures, and failed to observe the amount in words.

Amanda Pardoe

ASSUMING IT CATCHES ON - YOU'D BETTER INFORM THE REVENUE NOW!



How undeclared profits will find you out

TAX

Two partners in a London casino decided to open bank accounts under false names and deposited some deed boxes at the bank.

In September 1977 the two men asked if they could have access to their deed boxes. While carrying them from the vault the securities clerk noticed that the boxes seemed very light and concluded they probably contained very little.

As soon as the partners received the boxes they picked them up and shook them, though they did not at that stage open them. Because they were unhappy that their deed boxes seemed unaccountably empty, the casino proprietors demanded to see the manager.

About four weeks later the bank manager deposited £5,000 into each of their accounts. This apparent generosity was not unconnected with the criminal activities of the bank manager - he and another member of the branch staff had been helping themselves from several accounts.

However, no charges were brought against the manager or his accomplice. Neither of the customers was prepared to give evidence about the affair.

First appeal is to the commissioners

Nevertheless, it seems that one of the partners had let slip that as much as £80,000 had disappeared from the boxes. Traces of some money that may have come from this source also turned up in the form of three bank slips for £500 each in £5 notes and issued by the bank for the casino. These were found in the bank manager's old desk.

Not surprisingly, the Inland Revenue decided the deed boxes had contained undeclared profits from the casino and issued an assessment based on the £80,000.

The partners were faced with a huge tax bill on money they did not have. It was not recalling that this all took place when the top rate of tax on earned income was still 83 per cent.

The partners appealed against the assessments to the tax commissioners - the first stage in the appeals procedure. Taking all the evidence together, of clandestine activities, and lack of co-operation with the police in their investigations and prosecutions as well as the tell-tale bank slips, the commissioners ruled that the deed boxes had in fact contained undeclared profits.

They chose not to believe the casino owners, who insisted that the boxes contained only personal, though valuable, possessions. However, the tax assessments themselves were reduced substantially - to £11,970.

The partners appealed to the High Court (Les Croupiers Casino Club v Patterson 1987) and then the Court of Appeal, both of which basically gave them the thumbs-down. So they had to pay at least some tax on the cash that had apparently been stolen.

The moral probably is that not all the risks involved in evading tax are necessarily directly associated with the taxmen themselves. There are other hazards.

One snag with black money is quite simply how to invest it. Many people faced with the problem of keeping money that officially does not exist simply hold it in the form of paper money, frightened that any interest will come to light and betray them.

The trouble here is that even if it is not stolen or eaten - there are several hair-raising stories of paper money boards being devoured by insects, rodents or family pets - the cash will be steadily depreciated by inflation. Even 5 per cent inflation will cut the value of cash by about a quarter in only seven years.

A simple change of bank note design can also cause severe discomfort to long-term holders of paper money.

Even shipping cash abroad can involve serious problems, though it is now easier after the abolition of exchange controls. With the increasing trend towards the exchange of information between Revenue authorities on an international scale, this approach is not without its risks.

Then there are the activities of the Revenue itself. These may include following up advertisements for services to see if the business behind the telephone number has made itself known to the VAT man and the Revenue.

And there is an army of informers, from nosy neighbours to envious employees, as well as former spouses and lovers, who may all carry tales to sympathetic and patient taxmen.

In any case, there is theoretically no limit on the number of years that can pass after an offence for the taxman to take action.

The curious thing is that nowadays there are enough tax shelters to satisfy almost anyone who wishes to invest without paying the taxman. Enterprise zone buildings, business expansion schemes and, above all, pensions provide the investor with an effective 100 per cent deduction against tax and far better investments than the covert alternatives.

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Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

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PEP 87

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- No special charges
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have already started a PEP this year, PEP 87 could still be available to your spouse or children over 18. But applications must be received by 31st December. After 31st December you will be eligible for Framlington PEP 88, which will be identical in structure to PEP 87 and which will be launched early in the New Year.

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You should regard PEP 87 as a long term investment, and you are reminded that investment in the Plan carries risks as well as the chance of reward, and that the price of units can go down as well as up. If you are in any doubt about this offer you should consult your professional adviser.

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Your plan may be terminated at any time. You will receive the cash value of units at the ruling bid price. If your plan is terminated before 1st January 1989 it may give rise to a capital gains tax liability and you will not receive the income tax advantages associated with a PEP. Your plan may be transferred to another plan manager on request. Title to your units is vested in the plan manager or its nominee on your behalf.

The unit trust fund will be valued every day and the price of units published in leading newspapers.

The annual charge is 1 per cent (+VAT). The initial charge included in the offer price of the unit trust; there are no charges in respect of the PEP.

All units are accumulation units in which net income is reinvested. Tax is reclaimed from the Inland Revenue annually following the accounting date on 31st December and reinvested when it is received. The first accounting date will be 31st December 1988.

We plan to launch another PEP unit trust in 1988, PEP 88; all investors in PEP 87 will be sent details. After January 1990 PEP 87 and PEP 88 may be merged together and may be joined by other PEPs launched in subsequent years. Mergers will not require a referendum or meeting of the members.

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How yesterday's novelty spans the world of today

As the number of unit trusts has increased, the investment areas covered have grown ever more specialized. But there is an alternative. Liz Walkington reports on international unit trusts

Not so long ago a European trust was a novelty, but now there are several directed at just one European country, such as France or Spain.

Nevertheless, there is a continuing demand for more broadly based investments, of which international unit trusts are the supreme example. Although there are some specializations in certain types of stocks, there are no geographical limits on where they may invest.

A unit trust of any type gives the investor a stake in a number of different holdings, thereby offering a spread of risk, rather than shares in just one company. However, if a trust is concentrated in one particular sector or country, this diversification may be of no avail if that whole market goes into decline.

An international trust has wider options. If, for example, the whole British market was falling, there would still be other countries from which to choose.

As it turned out, there was no safe refuge last month, when all markets crashed together, but this is exceptional. Suzy Turner, who manages Sentinel's International Growth fund, explains: "In the longer term, markets tend to move in line with one another, as countries are subject to the same world-wide economic trends. Over short periods, though, they can be out of step, and a fund can exploit the differences."

Even in the short term, there are variations in the fortunes of different markets,

as can be seen in the month-by-month performance results of unit trusts. For example, in May this year, funds invested in Hong Kong and South-East Asia topped the table, while in June the UK sector came to the fore and in August Japanese trusts dominated.

An international fund manager who was quick on his toes might have reaped the benefits from all three of these areas in turn.

In practice, it may not be feasible to switch holdings around on a monthly basis, or at least not completely. However, the more broadly a fund is spread, the better are its chances of having at least some investment in whatever is currently the top-performing market.

Another possibility within an international trust is to invest in markets that are too small or too risky to support a single-country fund. Mexico, for example, does not as yet have a unit trust to itself, but Ms Turner is one manager who has thought it worthwhile to have a small holding in that country.

Equally, it is possible to pick a single sector within a country and ignore the rest. For instance, a trust might put all the money it allots to France

into oil stocks. This would be too risky a strategy for a fund investing solely in France, but within an international portfolio it would represent only a limited part, which could if necessary be balanced by other holdings elsewhere.

Of course, international trusts do have their disadvantages as well. To the extent that they are spread across several countries, they will not suffer too greatly from a fall in one market, but equally the effects of a rise will be diluted.

Another problem is currencies which, most managers



Suzy Turner: Mexico holding

agree, are particularly difficult to get right. The more countries a trust invests in, the more currency positions it will have to take, and hedging the exposure can be an expensive business.

While international trusts are general in a geographic sense, there are some that specialize in certain types of stocks. Examples are smaller companies, fixed interest securities, "ethical" investments and technology.

Some of these specializations, such as smaller companies, are also found in trusts investing solely in one or another of the larger markets, such as the UK or the United States. Others, though, are more recondite. It is hard to imagine a leisure or health care fund being feasible on anything but a world-wide basis.

Another category of trust that is international in nature is the so-called "fund of funds". These funds invest entirely in other unit trusts. They will not always have quite the same freedom of choice as other funds in the sector, as they are restricted to trusts run by the same group.

So if the range does not include, say, an Australian trust, the fund of funds will not have access to that market.

Of course, an investor could assemble his own international portfolio, by buying a collection of different single-country trusts, from any management group he chooses. This, however, would require a considerable outlay of

The fine art of selection

The advantage of an international unit trust is its broad scope. It can invest anywhere in the world. The corollary is that, with so much to choose from, asset selection becomes a particularly fine art.

There are various possible approaches corresponding to different degrees of activity and levels of risk. At one end of the spectrum, the portfolio might be spread across a range of countries in more or less set proportions, according to the relative size of every market. Such diversification would lower the risk, but returns would also tend to be modest.

At the other end of the scale, the manager may adopt a highly active approach, concentrating on the most attractive-looking markets and switching regularly as prospects alter. This might give greater potential rewards, but carries a higher risk of erroneous judgment.

Investment strategies are often described as being either "top-down" or "bottom-up". Within a single-country fund a top-down approach involves picking a sector first, and then individual stocks within it. On a bottom-up basis the stocks are selected irrespective of sector.

On a world-wide basis the bottom-up strategy is hardly practical, and most funds will be managed top-down at least to the extent that country weightings are the first decision to be made.

There may, however, be a "middle-up-down" variation, in which the sector comes first. Suzy Turner, of Sentinel, explains: "If we favour one sector, such as oil, we may invest in it globally, seeking countries with the most favourably rated oil stocks. To that extent, we may play the same themes through markets, though at other times we choose the markets first, then the sectors."

Ms Turner has no fixed limits on how much of the fund can be invested in any one market, though she would not normally go below 3 per cent. At the other end of the scale as much as 60 or 70 per cent might be put into one country if the market was large enough, and the prospects outstanding.

Earlier this year 40 per cent was in the UK, which is well above its index weighting on a world scale.

Sun Life's Managed Growth trust, by contrast, is designed for the investor seeking a broad spread, and has an upper limit of 40 per cent for any one market.

Within that constraint, though, the fund may still adopt strong views on countries, investing to the maximum or perhaps not at all. Strategy may also be influenced by "house style", in that if a particular sector is favoured, the practice is for all Sun Life's funds to invest in it.

David Baker, who manages the trust, agrees that the 40 per cent limit can affect performance, and that there are times when he might like to be more heavily weighted in one market. However, Sun Life also has an International Growth fund that is free of restrictions, while this one is intended for investors seeking a low level of risk without undue exposure to any one country.

As well as market prospects, the outlook for currencies can affect the investment decisions. Unit trusts are able to "hedge" a currency exposure, but only by means of a "back-to-back" loan, which involves making a sterling deposit equivalent to the foreign currency borrowed.

This procedure is expensive. Ms Turner explains: "I would need to be sure of making sufficient capital gains in the market to outweigh the cost of hedging." Moreover, there is general agreement among managers that currency movements are the hardest to predict.

One trust that adopts a highly individual approach to stock selection is Whittingdale Challenger. As this is set up to

invest in any or all of equities, cash, bonds, property and commodities, the first stage of the decision process is asset allocation between these categories. The choice between countries is relegated to second place.

Patrick Whittingdale's philosophy is that active management, not only between sectors and countries but also between different types of assets, is the only sure route to success.

At the time of the trust's launch a year ago, he considered that the bull run in equity markets would be over within six months, so the bulk of the fund was directed into bonds and cash deposits.

By the summer, it looked as

if this "mould-breaker" had missed its mark, as it languished near the bottom of the performance tables. The events of last month, however, brought some vindication of its irregular methods. With 95 per cent of its portfolio in cash, the trust had the fifth best result in the sector over October, and now heads the three-month table.

The crash naturally affected the fortunes of international unit trusts as much as others. Of almost 200 in the sector, only eight managed any price gain over October, and six of those were funds devoted specifically to fixed interest securities rather than equities.

The effects were so severe

Continued on facing page



INTERNATIONAL UNIT TRUSTS/1

both money and time to oversee the investments.

An international trust, on the other hand, offers the world for a single investment, usually of just £300. Moreover, the questions of country selection and currency decisions are in the hands of a professional manager, with considerable research resources to draw on. For the smaller or less knowledgeable investor this can have great appeal.

Even for the more experienced an international trust has its attractions. It may not outperform the top fund in the best market in the short term, but over a longer period a well managed trust should prove its worth.

PERFORMANCE TABLES

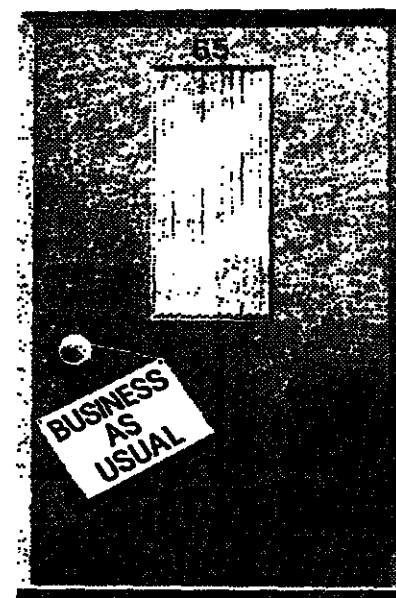
GROWTH FUNDS	
1 year, top three	
Vanguard Abington Fund	141.8
British International Growth & Income	130.5
British Shapley Portfolio	128.3
1 year, bottom three	
Oppenheimer International Growth	67.7
Carson Global	71.5
Franklin International Growth	71.6
5 years, top three	
Growth International Growth & Income	425.5
Edinburgh Progressive	417.7
Merrill International Growth	391.6
5 years, bottom three	
M&A Bituma World Technology	98.1
Edinburgh International Recovery	118.1
Allied Dunbar Technology	128.3

INCOME FUNDS	
1 year, top three	
Sun Life Managed Income	131.1
Durston Income	126.5
Belle Global Income	126.5
1 year, bottom three	
Royal London International	74.5
F&C Overseas Income	74.7
Mayflower Global Income	81.5

FIXED INTEREST FUNDS	
1 year, top	
Save & Prosper International Bond	97.2
1 year, bottom	
Legal & General International Bond	68.6
5 years, top	
Ashley Worldwide Bond	106.2
1 year, bottom	
Gartmore International Fixed Interest	122.4

All figures based on current value of £100 invested on 1 November 1982. All figures are in pence, including reinvestment of net income.

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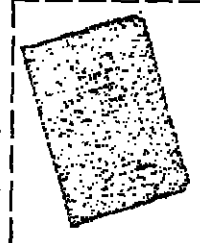
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Rate	Product
7.60%	Balance Sheet
7.30%	Balance Sheet
7.30%	Balance Sheet
7.00%	Balance Sheet
7.00%	Balance Sheet
7.00%	Balance Sheet
7.00%	Balance Sheet
6.70%	Balance Sheet
6.80%	Balance Sheet
6.50%	Balance Sheet
6.60%	Balance Sheet
6.30%	Balance Sheet
6.25%	Balance Sheet
5.95%	Balance Sheet
5.50%	Balance Sheet
6.25%	Balance Sheet
5.75%	Balance Sheet
4.75%	Balance Sheet
5.00%	Balance Sheet
4.00%	Balance Sheet
3.75%	Balance Sheet

150

FAMILY MONEY/5

Tax keeps down the income funds

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS



International trusts designed to produce income are a much rarer breed than those aimed at generating capital growth. The reason is historical and has to do with taxation.

Dividends paid to a unit trust by a UK company will normally have advanced corporation tax paid in respect of them. Such income is said to be "franked", and carries a tax credit, which the unit trust can set off against its own corporation tax liability when passing on dividends to its unit-holders.

In contrast, dividends received from foreign companies count as "unfranked" income and are subject to corporation tax. Management fees and any interest paid by the trust can be set off against this income to reduce the liability, but those funds aiming for a high income will naturally have a larger tax bill.

This acted as a considerable disincentive for trusts invested overseas to produce a high yield — hence the vast majority in the international sector were set up to concentrate on capital growth. In fact, five years ago, there were just two that sought to generate income.

However, as the corporation tax rate has been progressively reduced, so the number of international income trusts has risen. There are now 25, of which 10 have been launched within the past year.

Although they are all categorized as income trusts, the level of yield varies from 2.5 per cent on Crusader International Income, to 7.5 per cent on Wardley International

'Capital growth can be considerable'

Income. The average is in the region of 5 per cent.

Although this may not sound very high, it is well above the average return of equities, even in the UK, where yields are higher than most. In Japan, for instance, the figure is generally below 1 per cent.

Inevitably, then, the pursuit of income places constraints on the trust's investment strategy. Christopher Vale, of Kleinwort Grenvill Investment Management, adviser to the Kleinwort Barrington Global Income fund, comments: "If we want to invest in Japan, we must either buy a Japanese bond or compensate with a very high-yielding holding elsewhere in the portfolio."

Capital growth is by no means excluded as an aim, but may have to play second fiddle to the goal of income. Chris Finch, who runs Sun Life's Managed Income fund, says: "It is nice to have some growth, but unit-holders have invested primarily for income, so that must be the first priority."

On the other hand, there may be occasional bonuses. Mr Vale explains: "The yield may be high because the market is uncertain on the outlook for the stock, as in recovery situations. If it comes good, the capital growth can be considerable." An example in the Kleinwort Barrington fund's portfolio is Standard Chartered, which is high-yielding and high-risk, but with potentially high returns.

On the whole, though, income trusts have shown rather mediocre performance during the past year. Seven of the 15 that have a 12-month performance record were in the bottom half of the sector. Nor can this be attributed to the plunge in stock markets, which, for the most part, the

Selecting the trust becomes a fine art

Continued from previous page that scarcely more than a quarter are showing gains over one year to November, compared with almost all for the 12 months to October. Even those that can still boast a plus sign for performance have seen the cream of their profits evaporate.

On the face of it, a more aggressive approach to portfolio structure seems to bring greater rewards than maintaining a broad spread. Vanguard Abingdon Redfern Assets, which heads the 12-month performance table, has been particularly polarized, with 75 per cent of its assets in the UK and the remainder in the United States.

In contrast, Sun Life Managed Growth has had very mediocre results. Over the same 12-month period, it lies at 114th place in the sector, with a loss of almost 20 per cent on an offer-to-bid price basis.

Mr Baker explains that this is partly due to a wrong mix of holdings in the Far East. The fund was biased away from Japan, which actually performed well, and towards the



INTERNATIONAL UNIT TRUSTS/2

income funds came through rather better than capital growth trusts.

The star performer of the group was Sun Life Managed Income, which made second place in the sector over one year, with a return of 31.1 per cent. Although it is categorized as an international fund, it has in fact been invested entirely in the UK since its launch in June 1985.

Mr Finch explains that this is due to the higher yields available in this country. "If we were to invest overseas, we might have to go into bonds purely to maintain the income level."

In fact, the fund was 50 per cent invested in fixed interest securities, with the remainder in cash, at the time of the crash, which helps to explain its good performance. In September it had experienced an inflow of money, which was due to be partly assigned to equities, but the plan was overtaken by events.

Income funds may often have some holdings of fixed interest stocks to increase the yield level. Another category of international funds invests wholly in this area, and can produce higher levels of income, up to 9 or 10 per cent.

Fixed interest funds may aim for capital or income, but a combination of the two is difficult. Effectively, a bond pays out a fixed amount of income, so the higher the price of the bond, the lower the rate of interest this represents. Conversely, as interest rates rise, the value of the bond falls.

Currencies, too, are a consideration. Patrick Whittingdale, whose Challenger fund has been chiefly invested in bonds, comments that they are normally best bought in a strong currency.



Patrick Whittingdale: bonds

The appreciation of sterling earlier this year did nothing to help international funds invested in foreign bonds. Mr Whittingdale says: "We made money from investing in Deutschmark bonds but at the same time lost on the currency exchange."

Indeed, for most of this year, fixed interest funds were showing very unattractive performance figures compared with other international trusts. Over the 12 months to the beginning of October, they accounted for the five bottom places across the sector.

The stock market slump, however, had something of a silver lining for these trusts, which took eight of the top 10 places for the month of October — there being only 11 of them in all. While some are still showing negative price movements — and all are over periods of more than one month — the losses are negligible against those suffered lately by equity-based funds.



David Baker: "wrong mix"

smaller markets, which suffered particularly in the crash. In the UK, meanwhile, the emphasis was on defensive stocks, which did not have good results before the slump, though they are now showing up rather better.

In the long term, a well run balanced fund should produce good returns, while minimizing the risks. A more aggressive strategy will certainly pay dividends when the right decisions are made, but as some have found, the costs of an error are also high.

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Mercury Fund Managers is the unit trust arm of Mercury Asset Management Group plc and has built a reputation for consistent long-term performance. Mercury Asset Management is one of the largest fund management companies in the UK, and is in turn a partly-owned subsidiary of S.G. Warburg Group plc.

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The minimum monthly payment is £35, and there is no maximum. Your payments are invested in Accumulation units of the Fund of your choice and income is reinvested automatically, net of basic-rate tax, to increase the value of your units. The units are held for you in the name of our nominee company, Nutracio Nominees Ltd. You can check the price of units and the current estimated gross annual yield daily in the Financial Times. You buy units at the "offer" price and sell at the "bid" price.

You can alter your payments as you wish, subject to the £35 monthly minimum. You can terminate the plan at any time and cash in the units, or you may transfer them to a lump sum investment, subject to a £250 minimum. Participants must be aged 18 or more, but an adult may start a plan on behalf of a child simply by designating the account with the child's initials.

No Extra Charges

The only charges are those you normally pay for unit trusts; for Mercury General Fund there is a 5% initial charge and an annual management charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund. On giving three months' written notice, the Managers may increase these charges to 5¼% and 1½% respectively. The Managers are also entitled to a rounding adjustment. Commission is payable to qualified intermediaries; rates are available on request. The assets of Mercury General Fund are held in the custody of the Trustee (The Royal Bank of Scotland plc). The Fund is an authorised unit trust and a "wider-range" investment under the Trustee Investments Act, 1961. The Fund may write or purchase Traded Call Options and purchase Traded Put Options; up to 25% of the value of the Fund may be invested in the Unlisted Securities Market.

Managers: Mercury Fund Managers Ltd. (Member of the Unit Trust Association). Registered Office: 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS. Registered in England No: 1102517. Telephone: 01-280 2800.

MONTHLY SAVINGS PLAN FROM £35 A MONTH

To: Mercury Fund Managers Ltd., FREEPOST, London EC4R 4DQ.

I/We wish to invest £ (minimum £35) each month in Accumulation units of Mercury General Fund (if you wish to invest in any other Mercury fund, insert here the name of the fund you prefer). Full details of the

Mercury range of funds are available on request. A cheque made payable to Mercury Fund Managers Ltd. for the first month's payment is enclosed (full terms and conditions and a Direct Debit Mandate will be sent without acknowledgement).

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Title) _____ Full Forename(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
I am/We are over 18. (Particulars and signatures of any joint applicants should be attached).
Signature _____ Date _____ TSP/SPA

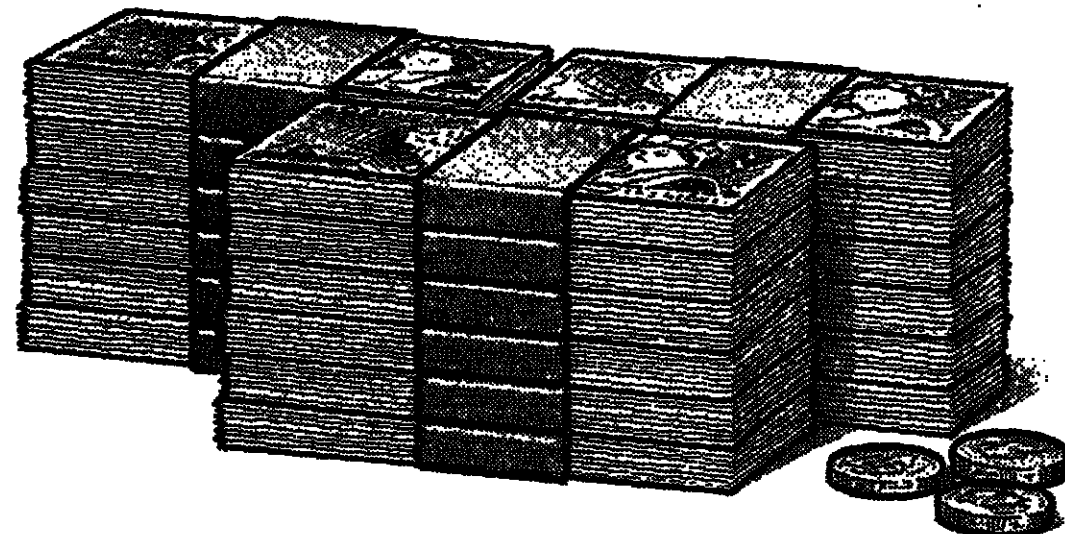
If you have a financial adviser, you should discuss this before investing. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.



HOW £50 A MONTH



BECAME £18,003.



If you'd started saving just £50 a month in our Unit Trust Savings Plan 10 years ago, by November 1st this year your total outlay of £6,000 could have grown to a remarkable £18,003*.

In other words, despite the recent falls in share prices, you would still have trebled your savings.

What's more, you would have achieved it by making just one easy decision.

Under this simple Plan, all you do is decide how much you wish to save each month — minimum £25.

The money then buys units in the expertly managed MIM Britannia Income and

Growth Trust, which invests on your behalf in a carefully selected spread of UK company shares, with outstanding growth prospects.

As you know, the price of units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up.

But because share prices have recently fallen, we believe that now is an ideal time to start a Plan. Lower share prices mean you get more units for your money. Then, when the market picks up, your units should grow at a very healthy rate.

For full details of this easy way to build a substantial capital sum, phone FREE on 0800 010 333 weekdays 9-5, or FREEPOST the coupon below.

*Planned Savings, offer to bid, net income reinvested.



To: MIM BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD., FREEPOST, 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. Please send me more information about your Savings Plan. I am over 18. ☐ Please tick if you are an existing MIM Britannia Unitholder. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Surname (MR/MRS/MISS/MS) _____ (BLOCK CAPITALS)
First name(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ TSP/II

MIM BRITANNIA

SAVINGS PLAN

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ALLIANCE + LEICESTER

The following revised rates of interest will apply from 30th November 1987 to Share and Deposit accounts currently offered by the Alliance & Leicester Building Society:

Net	Gross equivalent at 27% income tax rate
Prime Plus	
Balances £10,000 or over	
7.60% Interest annually	10.41%
7.30% Interest monthly	10.00%
Balances £2,500-£9,999.99	
7.30% Interest annually	10.00%
7.00% Interest monthly	9.59%
Balances £500-£2,499.99	
7.00% Interest annually	9.59%
Gold Plus	
Balances £25,000 or over	
7.00% Interest annually	9.59%
6.70% Interest monthly	9.18%
Balances £10,000-£24,999.99	
6.80% Interest annually	9.32%
6.50% Interest monthly	8.90%
Balances £5,000-£9,999.99	
6.60% Interest annually	9.04%
6.30% Interest monthly	8.63%
Balances £2,500-£4,999.99	
6.25% Interest annually	8.56%
5.95% Interest monthly	8.15%
Balances £500-£2,499.99	
5.50% Interest annually	7.53%
BankSave Plus	
Interest annually	
6.25% Balances £10,000 or over	8.56%
5.75% Balances £2,500-£9,999.99	7.88%
4.75% Balances up to £2,499.99	6.51%
MoneyBuilder Plus	
Interest annually	
5.00%	6.85%
ReadyMoney Plus	
Ordinary paid-up shares	
4.00% Interest half-yearly	5.48%
Ordinary Deposit Account	
Interest half-yearly	
3.75%	5.14%

Interest on other variable rate share and deposit accounts will be reduced by 1.00% from 30th November 1987 except the following: Premium Plus Accounts will be reduced by 1.20% annually and £25+ for monthly income on balances of £25,000 or over. Gold Interest Accounts will be reduced by 1.5% and Loan Accounts will be reduced by 2.0%. 5 AVE: premiums and charges for Leasehold Accounts will reduce by 0.75%. 5 AVE: premiums and charges for Leasehold Accounts will reduce by 0.75%. Details of the new rates for individual accounts and full terms and conditions are available on request from any Alliance & Leicester branch or from:

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(UK residents only)

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Date of Birth

Signature

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The French prices are up again

WINE

Last week saw the famous Hospices de Beaune sale in Burgundy - the most important wine auction in France.

Since 1859 wines from the Côte de Beaune have been sold regularly, save truly exceptional poor harvests, at this public auction in aid of a local charity.

It is the first serious assessment of the year's crop by the wine trade and the public alike, although under difficult conditions because frequently the wines are passing through the malo-lactic, secondary fermentation.

This year the auction recorded a return to higher prices. There was an average increase of 8.18 per cent, well above the 3.2 per cent French inflation rate.

This year's Burgundy vintage is of fair quality. The whites lack the exciting quality of either 1985 or 1986 but will prove of fair style when shipped in two or more years' time.

The reds show good colour. Tim Marshall, a noted buyer based in Nuits St Georges, who acts for several important UK companies, says the red Burgundies "promise body and fruit with a long finish".

The overall success of the harvest lies in the dry, hot September, which followed a dry, sunny but not very hot August. Two days of severe rain a week before the picking caused acidity levels to fall, but no rot developed as the final week was dry with sunshine and cool-drying north-east winds.

Mr Marshall notes that clusters of small berries with high sugar content and great colour and extract, known as *millerandage*, were seen this year, and were present in such fine vintages as 1961, 1969 and 1978.

Last year Hospices prices fell by more than 44.6 per cent for the reds and 27 per cent for the whites. This reflected a fall in both the US dollar and sterling, the large size at auction - 714 *pieces* or casks from 555 in 1985 - and the poor style of the reds.

This year 433 *pieces* of red Burgundy, making 11.05 million French francs, and just 73

pieces of white Côte de Beaune, achieving 3.3 million francs, were sold, with the auctioneer accepting the final bid before the candle went out on every lot.

It appears, therefore, that Burgundy has returned to higher prices after the temporary slump of 1986, but has been sensible with the increases.

In part, this reflects the international competition for one of its chief grape varieties.

Swiss bids created most export interest

The Chardonnay. So many prizes are being won by wine-makers in Australia, New Zealand and California in international competitions that the French appreciate that they may have raised prices too quickly in the early to mid-1980s.

By far the greatest export interest was generated by bids from Switzerland, followed by West Germany and Japan. The UK and Canada were next, but there was less success for the United States, Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Eire and Denmark.

The Swiss have had a keen market for Burgundy for many years and this year was a continuation of that traditional role.

Among the successful British bidders, Hoskins Brewery, of Leicester, bought Beaune Cuvée Brunet, and the French Horn Motel at Son-

ning-on-Thames, Berkshire, secured Volnay Blondeau.

J.W. Lees and Co. of Manchester, continued its regular purchases at the Hospices.

Lees' buyer Albert Birtles obtained Corton Charlotte-Dumay, which he intends to sell *en primeur* either by mail order or through the company's retail outlets such as George Dutton and Son in Chester or Thomas Baty in Liverpool.

Lees already quotes four older vintages sold at the Hospices - 1983 Pomard Dames de la Charité at £224 per dozen bottles, 1983 Beaune Nicolas Rolin at £192, 1985 Beaune Dames-Hospices at £318, which will be available in mid-December, and 1986 Beaune Nicolas Rolin at 1,760 francs ex-cellar with free six months' storage in bond.

All prices exclude VAT and the last one excludes freight and handling of about £3.02 and duty of £8.82.

Another successful bidder was Majestic Wines with Beaune Brunet. Majestic has 22 wine warehouses spread from Birmingham to Bristol, and from Poole to Wainstead. It offers a 1978 Volnay Cuvée Générale Muteau at £21.90 per bottle including VAT, and two 1983s - Mersault Genevrières Philippe le Bon at £22.50 and Beaune Clos des Avoines at £69 per magnum.

Investors keenly follow the wines of the Hospices de Beaune. The strictly limited stock means there is demand in top hotels and restaurants

that cannot often afford to make the purchases at an early stage. Many private individuals buy for more than their needs and sell the balance.

As examples of current prices, Harrods offers Beaune Cuvée Maurice Drouhin 1984 at a modest £15 (less the cost of a bottle on case orders), while Berry Bros and Rudd (3 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EG) list a white in Mersault Charnes, Cuvée de Baheze de Lanlay 1983 at £32, and two fine reds - 1982

Beaune Cuvée Brunet at £11.90 and 1973 Beaune Nicolas Rolin at £40 per magnum. All prices include VAT.

Finally, for those without a temperature-controlled cellar or who move frequently, most reputable wine merchants will store for a modest charge. However, you must insure your stock at its current replacement value, not at its original cost.

Conal Gregory
Master of Wine

Merchants store for a small charge

Beaune Cuvée Brunet at £11.90 and 1973 Beaune Nicolas Rolin at £40 per magnum. All prices include VAT.

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Conal Gregory
Master of Wine

Merchants store for a small charge

Why so many want to lose money on horses

Our article on investment in horses, (Family Money 10 October) generated tremendous interest. MIHIR BOSE looks again at the money being lavished on four-legged animals

So what is making so many of you want to invest in horses? All the racing experts warn that, for the ordinary punter, trying to own a horse, either through a syndicate or a company, is not investment.

Colin Tinkler, who is just launching the fourth edition of Full Circle Thoroughbred Racing plc, warns punters frankly: "Owning racehorses is just a luxury."

Yet many people seem to want to invest, or possibly spend their money on trying to rub shoulders with Robert Sangster and the fabulous Maktoom brothers. Part of the attraction is undoubtedly the feeling that you can own a little part of a racehorse for very little money.

Gymcrack Thoroughbred plc claims to have found some takers for shares in the company at £495 each, spread over two years. Gordon Holmes, the managing director, has already bought eight horses, including two whose grandfathers were the great Northern Dancer, probably the greatest stallion in racing history.

Mr Holmes, who originally bought foals and sold them as yearlings, still bitterly recalls

his experience with his horse Wiganthrope.

He bought Wiganthrope for £17,500 and sold it as a yearling for not much profit. It then won the Gymcrack Group II race at York in August 1986 and today it has a stud value of £3 million to £4 million. Mr Holmes says: "It is difficult to pick winners at the foal stage but with the money likely to be invested in Gymcrack I hope to avoid that."

Mr Tinkler's first Full Circle company four years ago started the trend followed by Gymcrack and others - shares in a company owning horses being offered at an affordable price to punters. He insists there is no money to be made in buying and selling horses.

He says: "It is absolute nonsense to claim that you can make money buying or selling horses. Those who buy shares in companies like mine or others should do so only because they enjoy racing and want to have a little bit of fun - but no more."

Then there is the Owners Group run by the Racegoers Club. The club, formed in 1968 to get people involved in racing, has run a series of Owners Groups since 1982. A new one is about to be formed, and Louise Gold, the club's



secretary, is, as usual, looking for 300 owners, every one of whom would contribute £365.

Miss Gold also makes it clear: "I don't want people coming in who cannot afford to lose £365."

Miss Gold hopes to raise £109,000, allowing her to buy two horses and keep them in training for two years. About £40,000 will be spent on acquiring the horses, the rest on training and other costs. Any surplus will be distributed but this is unlikely to be very much.

As with the companies, the Owners Group has a monthly

bulletin, a 24-hour answering service giving information on the horses, such as their chances, and a few perks. Owners who visit racecourses where their horses are running may catch Miss Gold's eye and get into the saddling enclosure and the paddock.

"It is all good fun and that is how the investment should be seen," she says. If investors take the same view, they may have few broken hearts should it all go wrong.

Gymcrack Thoroughbred Racing plc, 0751 73446; Full Circle Thoroughbred Racing plc, 0653 85512; Racegoers Club, 0734 341666

Portfolio - Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 23).

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	+4	+5	+6	+4	+5		
2	+8	+5	+5	+4	+2		
3	+3	+6	+6	+3	+5		
4	+5	+5	+4	+5	+4		
5	+5	+5	+5	+5	+5		
6	+5	+4	+5	+4	+3		
7	+7	+5	+4	+3	+2		
8	+3	+7	+7	+7	+4		
9	+6	+5	+4	+2	+2		
10	+4	+5	+5	+6	+6		
11	+4	+7	+5	+8	+4		
12	+5	+6	+5	+4	+6		
13	+5	+4	+3	+3	+6		
14	+3	+6	+6	+8	+3		
15	+7	+5	+4	+2	+3		
16	+5	+3	+4	+6	+5		
17	+4	+6	+4	+5	+5		
18	+3	+6	+6	+6	+5		
19	+4	+8	+5	+5	+3		
20	+6	+6	+4	+1	+2		
21	+7	+5	+5	+7	+5		
22	+6	+4	+4	+2	+3		
23	+7	+5	+5	+5	+2		
24	+5	+5	+6	+7	+5		
25	+6	+5	+4	+5	+4		
26	+4	+5	+5	+5	+3		
27	+7	+6	+4	+6	+5		
28	+6	+6	+4	+2	+2		
29	+4	+7	+6	+3	+4		
30	+4	+4	+5	+1	+5		
31	+5	+5	+4	+1	+2		
32	+5	+5	+7	+7	+3		
33	+5	+3	+4	+6	+3		
34	+5	+4	+5	+3	+6		
35	+5	+5	+5	+1	+2		
36	+3	+5	+6	+8	+5		
37	+6	+5	+4	+3	+4		
38	+7	+5	+4	+1	+3		
39	+7	+4	+5	+7	+6		
40	+4	+4	+3	+2	+4		
41	+5	+5	+6	+3	+6		
42	+6	+5	+3	+5	+2		
43	+5	+4	+5	+6	+3		
44	+5	+5	+6	+6	+3		

Solid opportunities for liquid assets



DUMÉNIL Managed Currency Fund

Whilst instability continues in world equity markets many investors are seeking safety together with flexibility. Duménil are now meeting these requirements with the new Duménil Managed Currency Fund. Managed in Guernsey, by Duménil Asset Management (Guernsey) Limited, the Fund will benefit from the investment advisory skills and expertise of Leopold Joseph & Sons Limited, (who will act as investment advisers to the Manager). Key features include active management, an enhanced interest yield available from wholesale money markets, a diversified currency portfolio and a highly liquid investment.

In addition, Duménil is offering investors in this fund

flexible access to equity markets in the future. A low cost switching facility will be available into any of the Duménil funds by way of an attractive 2% discount on the offer price.

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For full details and a prospectus, please return the coupon, or telephone: Guernsey (0481) 742771.

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LEGAL AND FINANCIAL

Head hunters in Room 12

As the supply of first-rate lawyers dwindles, the pace of search for these paragons quickens, and the head hunters make their appearance, says Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent, and even firms which shied away from such bloodthirsty activity are beginning to see its bonuses

Head hunting has finally hit the legal profession. The recruitment crisis facing new firms both in and outside London, which are finding it almost impossible now to attract the candidates they need, has spawned a plethora of legal recruitment agencies; and now, in the last few weeks, has come the first such agency which does not object to being called a "head hunter".

Room 12 is already known to city firms as a legal recruitment agency in London. But just a few weeks ago it became part of Directorship Appointments Limited, well known for its head hunting skills; and Room 12 saw every reason to move into a more aggressive form of job filling.

Cyril Batchelor, one of its directors, says: "Without doubt, there is now very

Head hunting happens everywhere else in the world and the head hunters survive

great difficulty in finding quality lawyers; people with up-market skills are in very great demand, particularly in commercial property and company and commercial law."

Conventional methods of recruiting staff — namely through advertising — are failing to produce an adequate response, and so firms are looking to see what else they can do, he says. Clearly Room 12 sensed there was a market. Mr Batchelor says firms had not actually asked him to head hunt, but now they know it is on offer, they are showing distinct interest. "It enables them to get precisely what they want."

Other agencies have stayed clear of head hunting on the grounds that it would alienate them from large numbers of potential clients. But Mr Batchelor says: "Head hunting happens everywhere else in the world; and the head hunters survive."

The arrival of head hunters is just the latest sign in what is the fastest growing quarter of the legal market: recruitment. Open any legal journal, and the recruitment agencies and their advertisements occupy increasingly large sections of display space.

Ten to 15 years ago there was only a tiny handful of such agencies; now there

are a dozen or so big ones, and perhaps two dozen more smaller ones.

As well as the best known names, there are a host of others: Law Placements; Law Personnel; Hughes-Castell; Meridith Scott Recruitment; Badenoch and Clarke; James Davis and Partners; and Daniels Bates Partnership, to name just a few.

They generally charge around 15 per cent of the first year's salary to private firms, 17 per cent to 18 per cent to industry. And with lawyers' salaries still rising at about some 9 per cent a year, the business is not unprofitable.

The Michael Page Partnership is typical of one of the fast growing newcomers to the scene. The partnership is the legal division of a much bigger consultancy and was started just three years ago.

Simon Anderson, division manager, says: "Accountants were already using recruitment consultants very actively, and we perceived there must be a similar demand in the legal profession."

The partnership has a presence in London, Windsor, St Albans, Leamington, Birmingham, Nottingham, Manchester, Leeds, Glasgow "and world-wide", and most of its business is in private practice, where it deals with all firms, from big city ones to one-man-bands. There are 13 consultants (mostly lawyers), eight of whom are in London, who make the direct contact with the firms and candidates.

There is at present a huge demand, Mr Anderson says, for solicitors in a wide range of new fields of work, and the profession cannot redress that balance within at least three to four years. "And that is one reason why there is such demand for people like ourselves."

Another reason is that the agency can take the slog out of looking for the right candidate. Many undertake what they call "special assignments": interviewing all applicants for a specific job, short-listing them, and even travelling round the country to interview people or undertake recruitment days.

Susanne Dawson, a founder of Link Legal, a new Birmingham agency, says many solicitors are apprehensive about approaching a firm direct. "They don't want everyone looking at their cv and then perhaps being turned down." Her agency, which only started in October, has already had "an incredible response" from firms with vacancies throughout

the country, although most come from the Midlands.

The agency can put in the time that a firm cannot, she says, advertising, making telephone calls and so on. The demand is now such, she says, that she could offer a good qualified candidate perhaps 10 possible vacancies. In one week alone, she had 25 jobs notified, for which there might be some eight candidates hunting.

It is not just solicitors that firms are seeking; a number are out to attract disenchanted barristers, and Susanne Dawson says she has been struck by the influx of applicants from the Bar, many of whom want to take the Law Society qualifying finals.

Some indication of the size of the market comes from the bigger agencies. Reuter Simkin, which started in 1973,

There is at present a huge demand for solicitors in a wide range of new fields of work

operates in London and in several regional cities. It has some 800 people on its books, according to Anita Dodwell, marketing manager, and the number of firms with vacancies is "not far short of that," but the problem, she says, is the match, exacerbated by the growing specialization of lawyers.

"It's like house hunting: there may be many houses on the market, but not the one you want," Chambers, which specializes in placing lawyers in industry (Reuter Simkin deals in private practice) says it has some 12,000 lawyers on its books, although this includes anyone who has ever registered.

It says some 5,000 are actively looking; and there are some 1,000 vacancies in commerce and industry at the moment, according to one of the consultants, Sonya Rayner. The business of matching is highly skilled, she maintains.

"You have to assess a person's experience, qualifications and personality, which we do through interview where possible. It's not just a question of looking down a computer print-out."

Demand, they all predict, will go on rising as solicitors diversify into new areas of work. Recruitment agencies — and head hunters — are clearly here to stay.

THE TIMES LEGAL & FINANCIAL SERVICES GUIDE

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Family Division

Blood test refusal evidence in paternity

Mc v B

Before Mr Justice Wood
[Judgment November 27]

The failure of the alleged father in a paternity issue to comply with a blood test was "other evidence" capable of corroborating the mother's evidence in a material particular within the requirements of section 4(1) of the Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957, as amended by Affiliation Proceedings (Amendment) Act 1972.

Mr Justice Wood held in the Family Division in dismissing an appeal by way of case stated by the putative father from St Albans Justices who, upon the mother's complaint that the appellant was the father of her child, had found the complaint true and ordered the appellant to pay £1 a year to the child.

Section 4(1) of the Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957 (as amended) provides: "On the hearing of a complaint under section 1 of this Act the court may adjudge the defendant to be the putative father of the child but shall not do so, in a case where evidence is given by the mother, unless her evidence is corroborated in some material particular by other evidence to the court's satisfaction."

Mr Christopher Morris-Cooke for the appellant, the putative father, Miss Ann Marie Wicher for the mother.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said

that the complainant, then aged 18, was employed by the appellant and his wife as a nanny to look after their five children. She lived with the family during the week and spent every weekend with her parents.

One night in April 1985 the complainant, having retired, about half past ten woke up to find the appellant in her bed and sexual intercourse took place to which she said that she had not consented. The complainant was a virgin. There had been no previous familiarity or intimacy and there had only been one act of intercourse. A boy had been born in January 1986.

The first hearing of the complaint was on February 7, 1986 when the justices had heard blood tests. The appellant did not comply with the blood-test direction and indicated that he was unwilling to submit to a blood test.

The appellant had sought to set up an alibi saying that he was away from home at the time working as a civil engineer on a construction site. The justices had rejected that evidence and had accepted the evidence of the complainant.

The justices expressed their opinion that the failure to comply with the blood-test direction coupled with the inference drawn from that failure was sufficient to constitute "other evidence" to corroborate the mother's evidence in a material particular and they adjudge the appellant to be the putative father of the child.

The questions posed to the court by the evidence that the appellant had failed to comply with the blood-test direction were capable of being corroborated by other evidence, and whether the justices were correct in drawing an adverse inference from the appellant's failure to comply with the blood-test direction.

Turner v Blunden ([1986] Fam 120), a decision of the Divisional Court of the Family Division, demonstrated that a blood-test report was capable of corroborating a mother's evidence in a material particular.

The court was assisted by the cases from the criminal law. The criminal test for corroboration considered to be similar to that required in affiliation cases. See *Thomas v Jones* ([1921] 1 KB 22).

Within the criminal law a refusal without reasonable excuse to supply a sample for scientific examination had been held to be capable of amounting to corroboration: see *R v Smith (Robert William)* ([1985] 81 Cr App R 286).

The statutory provisions relevant to the issue were to be found in sections 20 and 23(1) of the Family Law Reform Act 1969. Section 23(1) provided: "Where a court gives a direction under section 20 of this Act and any person fails to take any step required of him for the purpose of giving effect to the direction, the court may draw such inferences, if any, from that fact as appear proper in the circumstances."

His Lordship considered the cases of *In re L (an Infant)* ([1968] P 119), *B v B and E* ([1969] 1 WLR 1800) and from those cases it appeared that the courts were clearly construing adverse inferences to be drawn from the failure to take a blood test before the 1969 Act came into force.

In his Lordship's opinion, the statute permitted that adverse inferences might be drawn. The justices were correct to draw an adverse inference. What had the appellant to fear?

If the answers were to be in the negative section 23 of the Act of 1969 would be severely eroded. The answers to both questions posed by the justices were in the affirmative.

It had been submitted that the amendment by section 1 of the Affiliation Proceedings (Amendment) Act 1972 had made a change in the law affecting the basis upon which inferences in affiliation cases were to be considered.

His Lordship was satisfied that the purpose of changing the law was to remove the necessity in some circumstances of calling the mother to give evidence. The requirement of corroboration in affiliation cases remained the same as it always had been.

Solicitors: Garside & Hoy, Wealdstone; Turner & Debenham, St Albans.

Overwork can be cause of industrial injury

Regina v Minister for the Civil Service, Ex Parte Petch

Before Mr Justice Macpherson

[Judgment November 20]

A civil servant who had fallen ill through overwork was entitled to injury benefits under section 11 of the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme 1974.

Mr Justice Macpherson so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing an application for judicial review by Mr Raymond John Petch against four decisions of the Treasury and Civil Service

which ("the respondents") who refused to award him injury benefits for mental breakdown suffered in the course of his work.

Mr Petch in person; Mr Robert Jay for the respondents.

MR JUSTICE MACPHERSON said that section 11 of the 1974 Scheme provided that the injury or attributable to or by either the respondent or by the applicant had been exposed to the nature of his duty.

To say that the cause of the

mental breakdown must relate to something unusual or special to the applicant's work rather than his personality was, in his Lordship's judgment, misleading and constituted a wrong approach in construing section 11. Both factors must be considered.

If there was proof that the applicant's overwork could reasonably and probably be attributed to his particular mental illness, his claim was within the meaning of the section.

Such claim would only occur

in very rare cases since most people would not suffer any mental breakdown as a result of overwork.

In the light of a medical report initially put forward by the respondents which indicated that there was a pressure of work superimposed on the type of personality which, finally caused the mental illness, such a report could be closely looked at and tested; and accordingly it was an improper approach to disregard the man or his personality. To that extent the case might be similar to an eggshell-skull cases familiar in personal injury litigation.

His Lordship added that the fair and just result would be to quash the refusals. The respondents' refusal to award him any further evidence or medical evidence as appropriate.

Moreover, it had to be emphasized strongly that the ultimate decision remained with the respondents and it was not for this court or the applicant to attempt to reach a decision.

In his Lordship's view the respondents should seek to achieve finality in this long-running case in one way or the other as soon as possible.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor.

MR LAURENCE MARSHALL for the defendants; Mr Richard Hickmet for the plaintiffs.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said the plaintiffs sued the police for wrongful arrest and false imprisonment. If the police were to succeed they had to justify any arrest.

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Regina v Wilkinson

Before Lord Justice Neill, Mr Justice Peter Pain and Mr Justice Owen

[Judgment November 17]

The following text should be substituted for the report published on November 24:

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Probation hostel valuable weapon in sentencing

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Improving Kildimo can triumph

Forum's Policy, Young Women, 10-11 June 2012.

Lush warning over 'cheating'

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Lahore

After several more controversial decisions in the first Test match here yesterday, the England management turned the matter of the umpiring into a major issue. In a statement some hours after the close of play Peter Lush, who is in charge of the England team, said that if players visiting Pakistan felt they were "competing on unequal terms" they would not want to continue coming here.

What had brought the whole business to a head was an incident which did England themselves no credit. They had not long begun their second innings, 217 runs behind Pakistan, when Broad, having been given out caught at the wicket, refused to leave his crease. A good half minute must have passed before Gooch went down the pitch and ushered Broad off, reminding him that the umpire's decision is final.

Irrespective of whether Broad hit the ball or not, his behaviour was indefensible. Mr Lush said that Broad deeply regretted what had occurred and had been reprimanded. Had he been heavily fined, for which the machinery exists, England would have placed themselves in a very much stronger position to talk about "the good of the game" and to say that "we can't go on like this".

Inevitably there is a school of thought, and it would seem that the England management may belong to it, whose opinion is that England are being cheated. To the extent that they should certainly have had the umpires for this match submitted to them beforehand, they are. That is common courtesy and normal practice, and it will happen for the rest of the tour.

My own view — and I suppose I have seen more Test cricket on the sub-continent than anyone else from England — is that we are not up against sharp practice so much as incompetence and sheer hastiness. Several tours ago I did harbour the gravest suspicions about an Indian um-

pire. I thought he was a twister. But not Shakeel Khan, who made most of yesterday's controversial decisions and, as a former first-class cricketer himself, is a rarity among overseas umpires. He is 35 and this is his sixth Test match.

Like almost every other umpire in these parts he gives his decisions with such incautious speed that they can have had no chance of going through the brain first. If Shakeel had stopped to think and to look, he must have known that Abdul Qadir was not out yesterday when he gave him stumped off Cook. That was a mistake which favoured England, not one put in for the sake of appearances but simply because the umpire rushed to the wrong conclusion.

In every country, England included, the sides, especially visiting ones, think that it is they who are getting all the bad decisions. True to form, the great majority of them have seemed this time to go Pakistan's way, but might that not be because their bowlers have beaten the bat so much more often than England's?

No doubt Australians and West Indians and all the rest will be delighted by England's stance. They, too, have suffered over here. But I would rather it had been adopted more subtly by implying not that the future of cricket in Pakistan is being destroyed by opportunism, but by making an example of Broad and concentrating on the idea of an international umpiring panel.

Pakistan were, in fact, prepared to have neutral umpires for this series. Their campaigning for them in recent years hardly suggests that they will go to any lengths to win. England, for perfectly good reasons, have preferred this status quo. Had yesterday's decisions been given by an Australian and a New Zealander, or even a couple of Indians, no one would have



Broad disagreement: England's opener at the point of controversy and (below) making a stand against the decision (Photograph: Graham Morris)

got anything like as hot under the collar.

But it is not the umpiring, poor though it may have been, that will have cost England this match. It is first and foremost because Qadir has been too good for them and Pakistan's orthodox spinners have been more effective than England's.

When England lose today, as they inevitably will (they are still 170 runs behind with only six second innings wickets left) Gattling's first job must be to persuade his

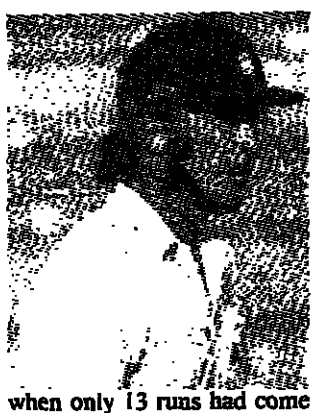
players that if they are good enough they will win the last two Tests. He batted himself for the last 75 minutes last night, which was a good effort in an emotive atmosphere.

Not long after reminding Broad of his responsibilities Gooch had found himself being given out, when he thought he was not, by the same umpire and in the same way and off the same bowler. He had played forward to a ball of full flight and been beaten by the turn.

Up went the fielders and up went the umpire's finger. Robinson had also been leg-before, playing no stroke to a huge and lethal googly from Qadir, and just before the end, by when it was nearly dark, Athey was caught at the wicket off Taufseel.

Friday being the holiest day of the Islamic week, there had been a 90-minute lunch interval to allow for prayers. I saw one or two myself for England's batsmen, but they were to go unanswered.

Of the Pakistan batsmen to be out yesterday, Mujtaba was bowled off his pads by Foster



when only 13 runs had come in 47 minutes. Ijaz was then bowled by DeFreitas, hitting at the pitch of the ball. Ashraf Ali, stout and bearded, made seven in 70 minutes before playing on to Emburey. But Akram made a breezy 40, 26 of them off two overs from Capel, and Qadir launched a couple of pulls for four off Emburey. Broad held a good catch at midwicket; Athey, swooping in from cover point, ran out Iqbal Qasim, and then came the Qadir decision, one that must have been palpably wrong to everyone on the field except the poor little umpire who made it.

SCOREBOARD FROM LAHORE

PAKISTAN									
First Innings									
		120	60	40	30	20	10	0	
Mudassar Nazar lbw b Foster	85	1	18	324	24	45	1	1	
Ramiz Raja b Emburey	55	1	5	70	45	1	1	1	
Sabbir Memon b Emburey	65	1	9	171	166	1	1	1	
Javed Miandad c Gooch b Cook	44	1	1	67	40	43	1	1	
Ijaz Ahmed b DeFreitas	7	1	1	67	40	43	1	1	
Ali Mujtaba b Foster	44	1	1	67	40	43	1	1	
Ashraf Ali b Emburey	7	1	1	67	40	43	1	1	
Wasim Akram c Broad b Cook	40	2	3	65	57	42	1	1	
Abdul Qadir at French b Cook	38	1	1	14	7	21	1	1	
Iqbal Qasim run out (Athey)	5	1	1	30	21				
Taufseel Ahmed not out	30								
Extras (b 18, lb 8, nb 4)	30								
Total		392							
England won toss									
Wasim Akram's total included a five									
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-71, 2-71, 3-213, 4-272, 5-250, 6-301, 7-328, 8-360, 9-370, 10-382.									
BOWLING: DeFreitas 29-7-84-1 (3 nb); Foster 23-5-58-2 (1 nb); Emburey 48-16109-3; Cook 31-10-87-3; Capel 3-0-28-0.									
ENGLAND									
First Innings: 175 (Abdul Qadir 9 for 56)									
Second Innings									
		15	10	5	3	2	1	0	
G A Gooch c Ashraf b Qasim	15	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	
B C Broad c Ashraf b Qasim	13	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	
R A Robinson lbw b Qadir	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	
M W Gatting not out	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	
C W J Athey c Ashraf b Taufseel	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	
N French not out	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	
Extras (b 4, lb 2)	4								
Total (4 wickets)		47							
D J Capel, P A J DeFreitas, J E Emburey, N A Foster and N G B Cook to bat.									
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-24, 3-55, 4-65, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.									
BOWLING: Akram 20-6-0; Mudassar 1-0-4-0; Qadir 14-5-13-1; Taufseel 4-1-8-1; Capel 11-5-10-2.									
Umpires: Anwarul Khan and Shakeel Khan.									

Compton blames Pakistan umpire

By Ivo Tennant

Only one of several distinguished former English Test cricketers contacted by *The Times* yesterday expressed support for Chris Broad's refusal to leave the crease for nearly a minute after being given out in Lahore. Denis Compton, not always one for conformity, blamed Shakeel Khan, the umpire, for "an appalling decision" and claimed that Broad's reaction resulted from the strain of playing too much international cricket.

"The decision looked so awful that I would not blame Broad," said Compton, after watching a slow motion replay on television. "He was not being a bad sportsman, he was protesting against an injustice. Peter Lush had to be seen to reprimand him so that relations between England and Pakistan would not be impaired, but I bet he does not really feel he should have done so."

"We had a splendid World Cup, but who then wants to go to Pakistan and play more one-day internationals and then a Test series? Hardly anyone is turning up to watch. I know that Broad will be criticised, but I feel that the strain of playing continual cricket is affecting players' emotions."

"I also have sympathy with Broad because in West Indies in 1953 I was given out leg-before when nearing a century to a ball that hit me on the chest. The umpire did not hesitate. It was simply cheating," he said.

"Where I would criticise England is that their batsmen are making it easier for the umpires to give them out. They are playing across the line when they know that the umpiring is suspect. It is time neutral umpires were the norm in Test cricket," he said.

Among other former Test cricketers, there was no



Compton

dissenting from Lush's view: "When given out, walk whatever the circumstances," Sir Leonard Hutton said he had never seen anything like Broad's dissent from an England batsman. "There is no useful purpose served by staying at the crease. The umpire has more power than a judge — the batsman has no appeal against his sentence. I feel it is the urge to win rather than the money at stake which is the cause of dissent nowadays," he said.

Asked whether he would have recalled Broad had he been Javed Miandad, Pakistan's captain, Hutton said: "I would have stayed impartial. You cannot always tell whether you are out and anyway, it is not your decision."

Alan Knott, the former England wicketkeeper, said he had never known of an incident when a batsman who refused to walk was allowed to continue batting. "If the umpire gives you out, you have to go. In 1980, Knott was given leg-before when hit on an arm in a Test against West Indies; it was highly dubious, yet he showed no dissent."

Geoff Cook, chairman of the Cricketers' Association, the body for first-class cricketers in England, said he did not want to see such an incident repeated.

"We drew up guidelines about dissent with the disciplinary committee of the Test and County Cricket Board before last season. Fortunately there were no serious cases of dissent last season, but I cannot recall any other occasion when a batsman has stood his ground for a long time after being given out. It comes down to a matter of respect between players and umpires," he said.

There have been occasions when a batsman has been recalled by the opposing captain in Test cricket. On MCC's 1950-51 tour of New Zealand, Cyril Washbrook was adjudged leg-before but, to the chagrin of the umpire, was sent back to the crease by Walter Hadlee, the New Zealand captain. "I had hit the ball and walked immediately as it would have only caused bad feeling had I stayed at the crease. Then Hadlee called me back. Umpires are only human and make mistakes," Washbrook said. "But if it had been 1987, I do not think I would have been recalled."

Broad receives reprimand

Lahore (PA) — Chris Broad has been reprimanded by Peter Lush, the England tour manager, after his controversial dismissal yesterday. "What occurred on the field today was totally unacceptable and cannot be condoned under any circumstances," Lush said. "The code of conduct of the game is very simple; when the umpire gives you out, whatever you might feel, you walk. Every player has his dis-

appointment but today's incident involving Chris Broad was a culmination of the frustrations that have built up over the first three days of this match."

Broad, said to be distressed about the incident, could have been fined up to £2,000 by the management. "Had the circumstances been different, I might well have imposed a financial penalty," Lush said. He added that the captain,

Mike Gatting, would apologise to the umpires on behalf of his player.

"To be fair to Pakistan, they have campaigned for some time to have neutral umpires appointed but so far the International Cricket Conference has not been in favour. My personal view is that this will need to change rapidly because things can't go on like this."

Top man first to leave

Nigel Cooper, the General Secretary of the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB), has lost his job in the major reshuffle of the sport's administration that was agreed with the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) in October (see *Jan Stafford* writes). Three part-time office staff have also been made redundant.

Cooper, aged 58, will be taking early retirement. He has held his post at the BAAB since

1982. The BAAB folded two months ago with debts of over £200,000, and the AAA took over its affairs until an individual governing body for the sport is established on January 1, 1989.

"I would have liked to have stayed, but the AAA has to look to the new administration and set up for the following years," Cooper said.

Maxwell will press on

By Ian Ross

Robert Maxwell is to defy the Football League and press on with the takeover of Watford. His British Printing and Communications Corporation (BPCC) confirmed its decision yesterday to buy Elton John's controlling interest in the club for £2 million, even though the League refuses to support the move.

Maxwell, who was in Germany on other business, missed the BPCC board meeting at which the decision was made, but the man he intends to install as Watford chairman, John Holloran, said after the meeting: "I will do my utmost, with the help of the board of Watford Football Club, its manager Dave Bassett, its players, its supporters and the people of Watford, to ensure the retention of first division status and future success for the club."

The decision dashes the hopes of the League, who had called on Maxwell to honour his pledge to withdraw if they withheld their backing. They are concerned that Maxwell, the chairman of Derby whose

son is also chairman of Oxford, would control 15 percent of first division votes if the takeover goes ahead.

Philip Carter, the president of the Football League, said last night that he was disappointed to learn of BPCC's decision. "I do not know why he said he would withdraw in the first place if he was not going to abide by it," Carter said. "The League will reserve the right to examine the position at an extraordinary meeting of the 92 clubs. I am not yet sure if any decision we take at that meeting can or cannot be implemented retrospectively. That is something we will have to look at very carefully."

Less than 24 hours after Maxwell had labelled the League management committee as being made up of "selfish, bungling amateurs", after they had refused to sanction his takeover at Watford, Carter countered with his own broadside.

He likened Maxwell to a "bare-knuckled fighter lashing

out in all directions because he can't get his own way", and admonished him for seeking an open confrontation with the game's administrators.

But Carter said he was still willing to meet Maxwell to thrash out a peace formula: "We are still quite happy to meet him — despite his personal abuse."

Carter also urged Maxwell to put himself up for election to the management committee and be judged by his own peers. "Why does he not put himself forward to see if the other clubs will support him," he said. "I think it is very unfortunate when a man of Mr Maxwell's stature and position in the community, and with the power he holds with his newspaper empire, should choose to attack myself in this way."

A statement from Hanover Druce, the consultancy firm acting as the middle men in the deal, last night read: "Elton John welcomes the BPCC statement and looks forward to completion on December 8."

Johnson narrowly misses 147 break

By Steve Acteson

Steve Davis eclipsed Willie Thorne 7-0 and Jimmy White led Joe Johnson 5-2 in the first sessions of the best of 17 frames semi-finals of the Telford United Kingdom Snooker championship in Preston last night. It was the unfortunate Johnson who provided the main talking point.

The 1986 world champion squandered the final pink in the third frame to deny himself a £50,000 cheque for a 147 break and also a place in the record books, with Davis, Cliff Thorburn and Kirk Stevens, who have all made televised maximums.

Johnson stopped the hearts of the watching millions as he rolled in 15 reds and blacks before gaining perfect position for the colours. But after taking yellow and green he jerked his head in giving the brown a terrible clout and the cue ball rolled back up the table the wrong side of the blue.

Position was vital but it was lost and after taking the blue

Johnson left himself an awkward straight pink which he missed by almost two inches.

After leading 2-0, White added breaks of 56, 30 and 99 to take a handy three-frame cushion into the main interval. Davis, after moving 3-0 ahead, made Thorne's suffering even more acute when he sneaked a snooker on the final pink in the sixth frame and then whipped home the last two colours to snatch the frame 64-63.

Then, after Thorne had led 31-2 in the seventh frame, Davis again tied him up in a knot of safety play before unleashing a clearance of 61.

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: J White (Eng) b T Giffney (Wals) 9-7. Frame scores (White first): 67-45, 65-13, 52-59, 12-46, 17-79, 29-75, 57-45, 75-4, 5-71, 62-4, 67-2, 32, 96-2, 76-7, 69-43, 81-7. W Thorne (Eng) b C Thorburn (Can) 8-0. Frame scores (Thorne first): 45-71, 78-58, 78-24, 4-78, 107-20, 80-37, 34-62, 0-137, 54-77, 20-109, 62-29, 4-127, 30-78, 103-20, 81-3, 38-7, 0-65. Semi-finals: S Davis (Eng) leads Thorne 7-0. Frame scores (Davis first): 65-25, 101-1, 79-1, 63-51, 79-8, 64-53, 88-31. White leads J Johnson (Eng) 5-2. Frame scores (White first): 81-22, 71-43, 0-134, 77-39, 49-63, 55-26, 59-0.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Torrance in front



Torrance: Joint leader

Four youths in the Yugoslav Adriatic resort of Split have been charged with exploding a tear-gas bomb during a European football game, triggering a stampede, the semi-official Belgrade newspaper, *Politika*, said yesterday. Twenty people were hurt during the incident at the European Cup Winners' Cup tie on November 3 between Hajduk Split and Marseille. UEFA has banned Hajduk from European contests for two years.

Official retires

Hans Bangert, the general secretary of UEFA, is retiring at the end of 1988. Bangert, aged 64, joined UEFA as general secretary 29 years ago after a seven-year spell as assistant secretary with the International Football Federation.

Striking debut

Jo Chamberlain, from Leicester, an opening bowler for the England women's cricket team, has become the first female to play in the 26-team Websters national indoor cricket league. Miss Chamberlain, aged 18, claimed two wickets in one over, making her debut for Leicester B against Hull.

On the move

Next season's home countries tennis internationals, between England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, will be played at venues in Telford, Glasgow and Cork from December 4 to 6.

Government may back Sheffield's Games bid

By John Goodbody

The Government is considering giving an Urban Programme grant of £500,000 to Sheffield, which will aid the city in its ambition to stage the 1991 World Student Games.

But Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, reiterated that apart from finance for the regeneration of derelict areas the Government "cannot offer additional resources nor relax the controls we operate on local authority spending."

A sum of £400,000 has already been given for the Woodburn Athletics Centre. But there would also be massive extra investment for the city under Urban Development and Derelict Land grants if Sheffield were to get the Games, the biggest after the Olympics with 7,000 competitors in 12 different sports.

Moynihan, speaking at a dinner in Sheffield, was addressing 29 members of the Executive Committee of the International Students Sports

Federation (FISU), which is this weekend looking at the facilities for the Games. Sheffield is the only city officially bidding for the event although there are rumours that Turin, which has already been host twice, may decide to bid. The nomination will be made in May, 1988.

Sheffield is planning to raise most of the £84 million for new facilities and £20 million for administration costs from the private sector. Plans include the construction of three swimming and diving pools and a 12,000 capacity sports hall, as well as the vacation of the city's largest complex of flats for the Games village. Hyde Park, a development of 1,000 flats, will be renovated and used eventually for students and other single people.

Unlike the Olympics, the Games are often awarded to a city specifically to help it obtain facilities to be used by the local community.

Venues fixed

Dates and venues for this season's three European club competitions were announced by the European Football Union (UEFA) yesterday. The European Cup final will be played on May 25 at the Neckar Stadium, Stuttgart; the Cup Winners' Cup final has been set for May 11 at the Meinau Stadium, Strasbourg; and the two legs of the UEFA Cup final will be played on May 4 and 18.

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